

ve of Budget jobless otal near to 1,400,000

In unemployment for the sixth month brought the total number of out of work to nearly 1,400,000 in March. Details of today's Budget are almost certain to make the problem worse, as well as to reduce the value of unemployment benefit.

Sixth successive monthly rise

Atkinson's statement went up for the sixth consecutive month to nearly 1,400,000 in March. The details of today's Budget are almost certain to make the problem worse, as well as to reduce the value of unemployment benefit.

These figures include unemployed school leavers. The Government's special unemployment measures are now keeping an estimated 205,000 off the register and helping a total of 405,000 people.

The problems of the long-term unemployed are becoming more severe. There are growing numbers of workers who have been without a job for a year or more. Their financial position is likely to be worsened by today's Budget because a cut in the real value of unemployment benefit is almost certain to be announced as part of the Government's public spending reductions.

Our Dublin Correspondent writes: Almost 60 per cent of adults in the Republic of Ireland are in favour of their country competing in the Moscow games, according to a research survey published in Dublin yesterday.

The survey, carried out in early February by Research Surveys of Ireland, shows that 32 per cent of a team should not go to 40 per cent said they did not know.

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Britons vote to send team to Olympics

By John Hennessy

The British Olympic Association (BOA) decided yesterday by a big majority to send a team to the Olympic Games in Moscow in July. Only one sport, hockey, positively came out in opposition, but four others—equestrianism, fencing, swimming, and yachting—asked for the decision to be deferred.

Fifteen sports voted for immediate acceptance of the invitation to Moscow together with three other members of the committee. The identity of these three was not revealed, but they are almost certain to be Lord Exeter and Lord Luke, who are members of the International Olympic Committee, and Mr Charles Palmer, vice-chairman of the BOA and a dedicated opponent of political interference in sport.

The five winter sports were not represented nor was the Football Association, who are not involved in the Olympic Games.

The BOA stated that there will be "no pressure to participate on individual sportspersons and sportswomen who prefer not to be considered for the team".

The garmen had been instrumental in forcing a change of mind on the Amateur Rowing Association. The hockey players, the BOA feels, may do the same, particularly when they have had the opportunity to digest what they regard as a bizarre statement issued yesterday by the men's Great Britain Hockey Board.

Flying in the face of reality, it is inviting the International Hockey Federation to hold a "hockey Olympic Games" at a more appropriate venue.

If there were any attempt to hold alternative games the BOA would not be interested, Sir Denis Follows, the chairman, said.

Sir Denis refused the suggestion contained in a question in Parliament that he had said he "knew more about the interests of this country than Members of Parliament." He had never said this.

Political Editor writes: The Government last night immediately issued a statement which "seriously regrets" the BOA decision, but appealed to individual athletes not to abide by it.

The statement noted that neither the governing bodies of sports nor the individual athletes were bound by the BOA decision.

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Steel committee of inquiry members expected to be announced today

By Donald MacIntyre
Labour Reporter

An announcement of the names of the three-man committee of inquiry into the steel strike may be made today.

Both sides in the dispute yesterday submitted a list of candidates, and it was believed that three of the figures on the list had agreed to take part.

The committee, which will be established under the auspices of a five independent Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, is expected to take no more than a fortnight on its deliberations, which will be confined to the difference between the union's claim for a 19 per cent pay and conditions deal and the British Steel Corporation's 14 per cent offer.

Small majority
of Jaguar
vote for strike

A majority of only 86 in a meeting of 2,400 British Leyland, Jaguar workers at Coventry voted to strike in protest at BL's plans to impose its pay and working conditions package from April 8. The majority, was a blow to militancy within the union to call off strike action. The first vote, declared by a shop steward, was greeted by a roar of protest.

Hell's Angels jailed

Twenty-four Hell's Angels were sentenced at Winchester Crown Court for their part in a battle between rival chapters in the New Forest last Easter. The sentences ranged from suspended terms of imprisonment to 15 years for one man convicted of attempted murder.

U.S. hostages setback

Mr Saad Qochibei, the Iranian Foreign Minister, said in Tehran that the Shah's flight from Panama to Egypt had badly damaged efforts to release the American Embassy hostages. He also said that the Soviet Union had agreed to regional talks on the Afghanistan crisis.

Action on Debendox

Parents who think their children's birth defects were caused by Debendox taken during pregnancy have formed an action committee to get the drug taken off the market.

Analysis of Budget and White Paper

For the first time today the Chancellor of the Exchequer's annual Budget statement will coincide with the publication of the Public Expenditure White Paper. The Times will tomorrow include full reports of both. There will also be extensive analysis of their political and economic significance as well as discussion of their likely impact on many sectors of Britain's national life by our team of specialist writers

Soviet health doubts

The failure of President Brezhnev and Mr Kosygin to attend the opening session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic and their absence from meetings with members of the visiting Nicaraguan Sandinista Liberation Front have led to suggestions that the two leaders are both unwell again.

Death threat: The IRA says it will kill

electricity men who cut off supplies to working class homes in Ulster.

Mugabe: Warm reception for Lord Soames reflects Mozambique's desire for closer ties with West.

Classified advertisements: Appointments

HOME NEWS

Strike vote by workers at Jaguar shows majority of 86 wants action against BL-imposed deal

By Clifford Webb
Midlands Industrial Correspondent

A meeting of 2,400 workers at British Leyland's Jaguar assembly plant in Coventry yesterday voted by a majority of 86 to strike in protest at the management's plans to impose its pay and working conditions package from April 8.

The small majority was a blow to militants who had hoped that overwhelming support for a strike would influence the outcome of today's crucial meeting of national union leaders and shop stewards on BL Cars' joint negotiating committee.

The reported anger of Jaguar employees at plans to down-grade assembly workers had failed to support the bid.

But the narrow decision only reaffirmed evidence that increasing numbers of BL workers now realize that a sustained strike could wreck the company's recovery plans and lead to more job losses.

The meeting began quietly with a recommendation for a strike from the close of work on

Friday being put by Mr Ronald Newcombe, chairman of the joint shop stewards' committee. He emphasized that the main concern was the proposed implementation of the new five-grade wage structure for the whole of BL Cars.

That would reduce assembly workers at Jaguar from their present top-grade position, in future to be reserved only for skilled craftsmen, to grades two and three.

When the vote was called for a show of hands Mr Newcombe announced: "That looks pretty unanimous for strike action." His words were drowned by roar of protest. There were repeated shouts of "rubbish" and "it's a farce".

After consultations with other stewards Mr Newcombe asked the meeting to split into two groups—those for and those against the recommendation. That again failed to show a clear majority and finally the two sides fled through separate gates and were counted.

Later men complained that one union had boycotted the meeting and that several hun-

dred workers from other unions had stayed away.

At a second Jaguar plant, the Rover engine works, which employs 3,100, have still to consider their response to the strike call.

Union leaders attending to day's meeting are reluctant to endorse an all-out strike action after the company's dire warning of its parlous state. But the union side of the joint negotiating committee has been authorized by senior shop stewards to call a strike when the present layoffs cease and the company returns to full production.

It was generally thought last night that an all-out strike will be avoided but that strikes at key plants could take place. That would be almost as damaging.

Management is reported to have offered to bring in other materials to settle the strike by 30 trim shop workers that has stopped production of the Mini at Longbridge. The men are complaining that a new type of roof material causes irritating skin rashes.

IRA threaten to kill electricity men who cut off supplies

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

Swinging electricity price rises in Northern Ireland yesterday provoked a warning from the Provisional IRA that anybody who tried to cut off supplies to working class families would be shot.

On the day that the electricity service announced a 17.5 per cent increase from next month, the IRA said they had received "serious complaints" from tenants in Catholic west Belfast that workmen had forced their way into homes to cut off supplies.

A spokesman added: "The IRA now finds that it has been left with no option but to deal seriously with anti-social activities of electricity workers who, in all future attempts to cut off working class families' electricity supplies, will be shot".

The Northern Ireland Electricity Service refuted the IRA's claim that a guarantee has been given that supplies would not be terminated. An official said it observed a code of practice providing for cases of genuine hardship. Any allegation of

forced entry would be investigated.

Electricity debts in Ulster in August 1978 stood at more than £3m owed by 97,000 consumers. The figures had dropped last December to just under £12m owed by 57,000 consumers.

The cost of living in Northern Ireland is considerably higher in almost every area than in the rest of the United Kingdom.

The electricity service said that a further increase might be necessary later this year.

Grenade signs: A man armed with a hand grenade was yesterday holding a family hostage on a housing estate at Dundalk, Co Louth, beside the border between the Republic of Ireland and Ulster (our Dublin Correspondent writes).

The incident started when police went to the house in the Dublin Road, with a warrant to arrest Bernard McGinn, aged 21. The area was quickly surrounded by police and soldiers.

Mr McGinn, from Castleblayney, Co Monaghan, was sentenced in Dublin, in his absence to 10 years' imprisonment. He is believed to have

links with the Provisional IRA and was convicted by the Special Criminal Court of possessing a milk churn bomb near the border.

The hostages are Mr and Mrs O'Reilly and their two-year-old daughter, who are believed to be related to Mr McGinn.

Mr McGinn's father, a Sinn Fein councillor in Castleblayney, had arrived at the scene to talk to his son.

Club destroyed: The co Armagh gun club was destroyed by two brief explosions early yesterday (our Press Association reports).

Police were on the scene, in Newry Road, Armagh, within seconds: their county headquarters is only 100 yards away.

Firemen called to the club were unable to fight a fire which broke out because of a third device.

A Royal Ulster Constabulary officer said that the club, on the outskirts of the city, was "completely devastated".

Army bomb disposal experts later defused the third bomb and firemen moved in and brought the blaze under control, the police said.

Rivalry of architects and planners

By John Young
Planning Reporter

In an attempt to improve relations between architects and planners, the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and the Royal Town Planning Institute yesterday issued a joint statement which attempts to clarify their respective roles.

Professional planning staff, it says, should acknowledge that the design of buildings is the special responsibility of commissioned architects.

Architects should recognize that the planning system is properly concerned with land use, the environment and questions of density, massing and layout.

Architects should accept that the development control system allows local authorities to con-

sider the appearance of proposed development. But where the point at issue is one of aesthetic judgment, planning officers are advised to act cautiously.

"Any architect or his agent should be given an opportunity to discuss his proposals with the chief planning officer or an appropriately qualified and experienced 'assistant,'" the statement continues.

Chief planning officers are advised that no junior assistant should be in a position to criticize the design aspects of the work of an architect or other professional person, without reference to an experienced officer.

"Where planning officers object to the design of proposed developments, precise reasons should be given in writing."

Expedition going to Himalayas for anniversary

The Royal Geographical Society is embarking on a mountain adventure in the Himalayas to mark its one hundred and fiftieth anniversary this year. It hopes to discover more about the relatively unknown Karakoram mountain range in Pakistan.

A team of 56 geographers and scientists from Britain, China and Pakistan will take part.

Professor Keith Miller, from Sheffield University, the expedition's leader, said the area contains probably "the greatest extent of high mountains in the world". The expedition is expected to last three months, and the exploration will begin on June 20.

Advanced scientific equipment, including lasers, will be used to plot the shape of glaciers and valleys while other team members will try to discover their origins.

Part of the territory is prone to earthquakes and the team will study local buildings to see how they withstand tremors.

Fleet Street in dockland prospect grows

By Our Planning Reporter

The prospect of a new "Fleet Street" one day emerging in the London docklands has been boosted by the news that The Daily Telegraph has purchased a five-acre site in Wapping Lane.

Since News International, publishers of the *News of the World* and *The Sun*, announced last year their intention to move to a new docklands site, other newspaper groups have been making inquiries.

Associated Newspapers, who have for some time wanted to move away from their premises near Fleet Street, said yesterday they were looking at possible sites "at the proper price", but were "not prepared to lock up money uneconomically".

Several factors make the prospect of a move out of central London attractive. They include traffic congestion, high rents and rates, the increasing obsolescence of machinery and the advent of computerized technology, which might be more successfully installed in purpose-built accommodation.

Newspapers might also find it initially beneficial to be once more grouped in the same area, instead of being dispersed, as at present, from their traditional home. The docklands offer the advantage of being relatively close to central London, while offering room to expand at much lower cost.

Mr Hugh Lawson, deputy general manager of *The Daily Telegraph*, said yesterday that the present intention was only to print southern editions of the paper and *The Sunday Telegraph* in Wapping.

Site clearance and construction would take some years, and editorial, advertising and administrative offices would remain in Fleet Street for the foreseeable future.

Train drivers could not do job if they stuck to rule book, inquiry is told

By Our Labour Staff

British Rail drivers would not be able to do their jobs if they stuck to the rule book, one of their union leaders said at a train crash inquiry yesterday.

Mr John Walker, Scottish Secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, the footplatemen's union, made his claim at the end of a fatal accident inquiry at Dundee Sheriff Court into a crash in which five people died and 52 were injured.

The express train driver, of Tayport, near Dundee, and his assistant, Mr William Hume, aged 20, of Dundee, were killed. The inquiry heard that, after the crash, the signal was found to be raised at an angle of between 6 and 8 degrees above the horizontal.

Mr Frederick Walmsley, British Rail's Scottish regional operations manager, said that an angle of anything below 37° should be regarded by drivers as an imperfect or "wrong" signal, and under the rules they should stop and report it.

Questioned by Mr Walker, he

Warning of task facing corporation when dispute ends

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Amid growing concern over the impact of the continued shutdown of steel production from the British Steel Corporation's works, big consumers in manufacturing industries are turning increasingly towards imported steel to make good shortfalls in supply.

As talks took place yesterday between the BSC, now faced with the third week of a strike which is costing it an additional £10m a week, and the TUC steel committee over the corporation's plans for cutting jobs and steel production, the British Iron and Steel Consumers Council gave a warning about the task facing the corporation and its workers when production resumes.

Mr John Safford, the committee's director, said he was receiving a growing number of inquiries from companies who had never before bought steel from foreign producers as to where they could secure shipments of steel to maintain production.

It must have been a terrifying moment for those Labour MPs who had momentarily forgotten that the Archbishop of Canterbury was being entombed and that the Prime Minister and her deputy, Mr William Whitelaw, were otherwise engaged.

Almost regally Sir Keith sat on the assembled multi-millions thanked Mr John Farn, Conservative MP for Hartlepool, for expressing pleasure at the sight of the right honourable gentleman in such an exalted position.

"It is a great honour to be invited to the annual convention of the Institute of Directors.

British Steel still had a future in the steel industry, he said, provided that the necessary restructuring was carried through quickly to make it competitive with other EEC steel industries.

Many are finding just how cheap and how easy it is to

import steel to Britain. It must be very worrying for steel industry union leaders as well as for the BSC itself, he said.

Imports over the first two months of this year were higher than for the whole of last year.

Tonage lying on quays for transport to customers at ports where picketing has been heavy is equivalent to a month's imported steel deliveries. It will flood onto the market once the strike is resolved.

Both sides to the dispute now consider it most unlikely that production will return to normal until after Easter and the build up over the past week as a result of renewed deliveries from private sector steelworks supplemented by imports of steel. But industrialised production was down to about 95 per cent of what it would have been but for the strike.

Mr Gordon Sambrook, of the BSC, described reports of widespread disruption and disruption to the rest of industry yesterday as "ridiculous". Reports to the CBI, he emphasized, showed clearly that there was no crisis in the industry due to the steel strike.

But stockholders, who provide the link between steel producers and customers, said some difficulties could be felt.

British Rail said it had received a ripple effect on its freight wagon replacement programme.

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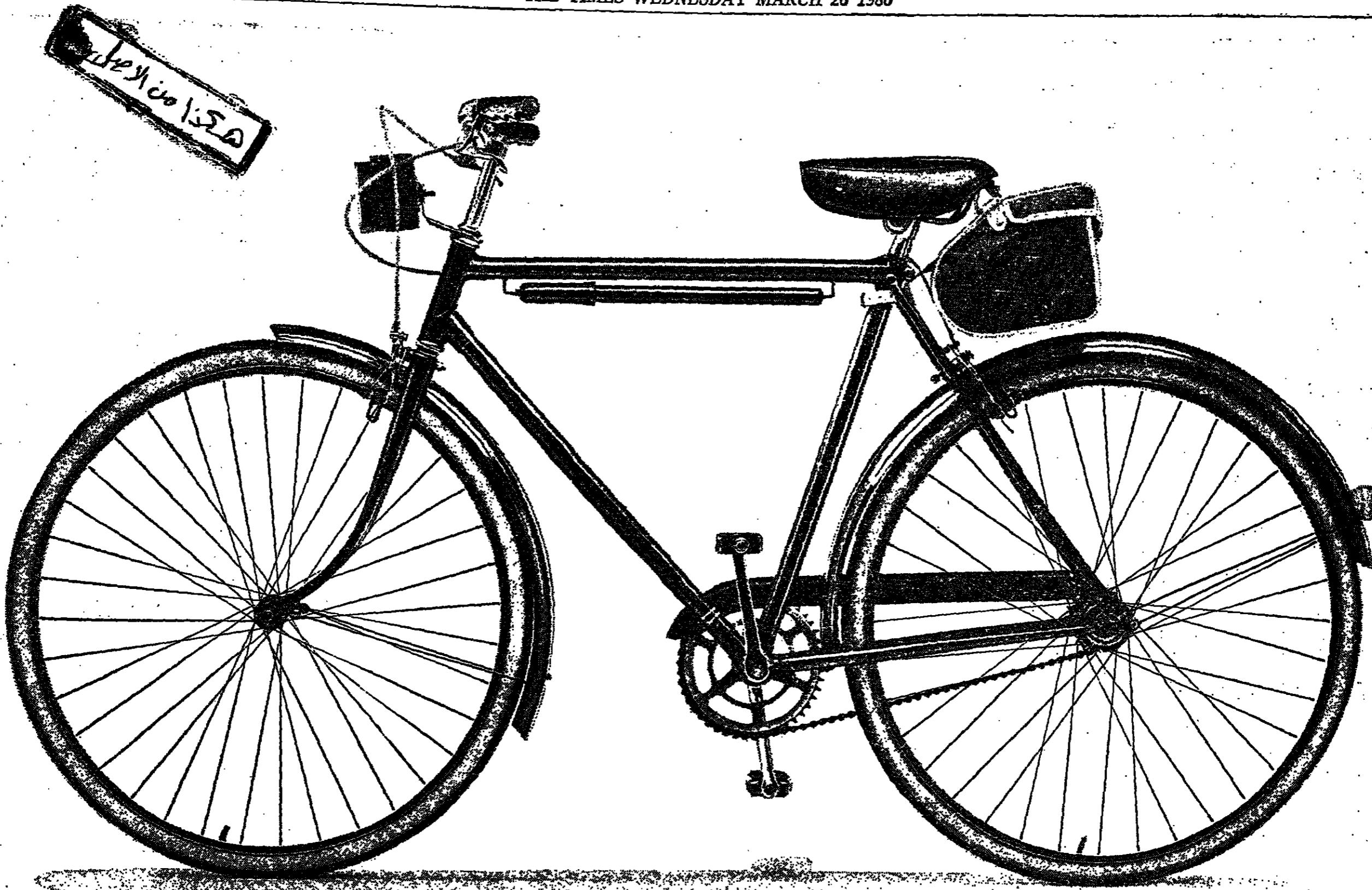
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Costs more to service than a new Mirafiori.

Fiat are simply claiming that their Mirafiori range is a rugged, no-nonsense breed of car.

Rugged enough, indeed, to give a Mirafiori 1st and 3rd places in this year's Monte Carlo rally.

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Until May 31st, 2 years' service bills are on us.

Complaint group set up by rents who blame drug for birth defects

ABEL FERRIMAN
Services Correspondent
Those who think their children's birth defects were caused by drug Dibendox taken during pregnancy have formed an committee to try to get drug taken off the market.

met Mr Jack Ashley, MP for Stoke-on-Trent, yesterday at the House of Commons to set up the committee. The parents intend to write to the 70 people who signed the petition to Mr Ashley the drug and arranged action.

Valerie Alexander, who elected chairman of the test and whose fifth child, was born with half an arm, said that her chief aim was to prevent any woman or child from being born with a birth defect.

Committee would have to whether to take a test against Richardson-Merrell, who produced the drug. The decision of a judge had caused a birth in a child. Ashley also called for an

inquiry into the drug.

Richardson-Merrell said yesterday that the Florida decision was not a victory for the people who sued because they were not awarded any damages, only \$20,000 for medical expenses.

The issue is one of such complexity that it can only be considered by an authority with the right expertise. It makes no sense to have it tried in public on an emotional basis.

One does not know what other drugs the mothers took."

ts Council aid increased line with higher grant

ARTS REPORTER
Arts Council is to pay 13.5 per cent more to organizations it supports as a result of the £11m in the Government's 1980-81 £70m budget. That rise in the budget, described as 20 per cent, the council insists that percentage should have been taken into account in the first cut year's figure, and the special grants for Covent

Garden. That brings it down to just over 13 per cent.

There is also a deficit from last year of between £6m and £7m.

The council never gives details of individual grants, but they are frequently made on a swings-and-roundabouts basis, a council receiving proportionately less one year than another, either because another is more deserving, or because private sponsorship has improved.

Museum of heraldry to open at Tower

By Ian Bradley

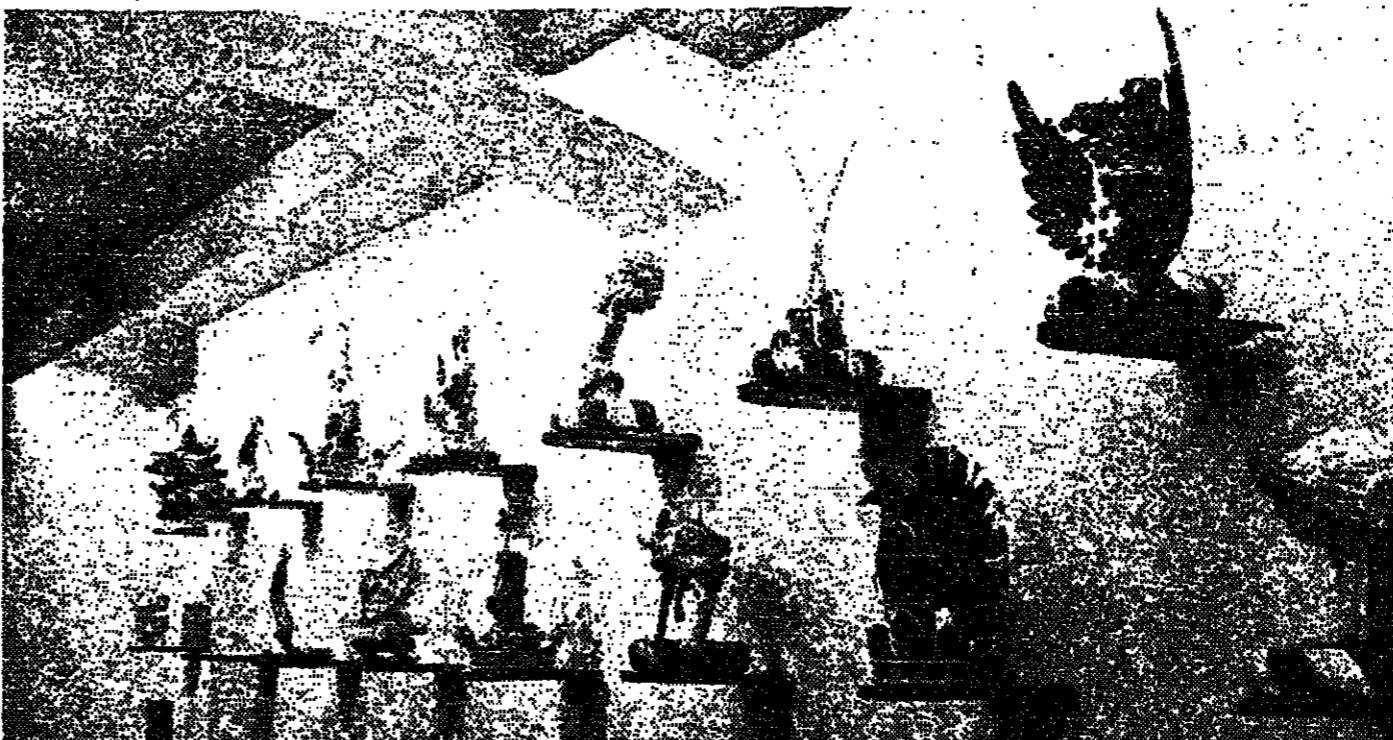
Visitors to the Tower of London next week will have a new attraction, a heralds' museum, which has been established in the old Waterloo Barracks, near the White Tower.

The museum, which is being opened officially today by the Duke of Kent, is the idea of Sir Anthony Wagner, Clarenceux King of Arms, and until 1978, Garter King of Arms, head of the College of Arms.

Sir Anthony said yesterday that the idea of establishing a museum of heraldry went back to 1933 when as a purvain (junior herald) he was searching through the cellars of the college to find items for an exhibition to mark its 450th anniversary. "Some of the objects I found are at last on display here today," he said.

Originally the heralds hoped to establish a museum next to the college in Queen Victoria Street but that proved impossible.

The museum traces the development of heraldry from its origins in the twelfth century. It includes examples of the tabards which are still worn by



Photograph by Bill Markham

Crests of Knights of the Garter on display in the Heralds' Museum of the Tower of London.

heralds on state occasions. 70 shields painted with the arms of former heralds, and a large collection of crests of Knights of the Garter which were formed in St George's Chapel, Windsor.

Among the manuscripts on display are a grant of arms to

John Shakespeare, father of the playwright.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rodney Denys, Somerset Herald of Arms and deputy director of the museum, wants it to be a record of the heralds' present work as well as of their past achievements.

"Heraldry in England has not been indissolubly linked with the nobility as it has in other European countries," he said.

"It has been far more a way of symbolizing someone who has achieved a certain eminence and position in life. Therefore the

College of Arms is alive and kicking whereas many of our colleagues abroad are social fossils."

The museum will be open every day from April 1 to September 30. Admission is free to those who have bought entrance tickets to the Tower.

Essex boats defy ban on herring fishing

From Our Correspondent
Colchester

Angry Essex fishermen yesterday defied a government ban on herring fishing and today they plan to dump their catch on the Ministry of Agriculture's doorstep as a protest.

The fisherman, from West Mersea, near Colchester, risk fines of £50,000 and confiscation of their boats and nets by landing their catch.

One of the men, Mr John Jowers, aged 34, said: "If we cannot fish they might just as well take away our boats. They are already taking away our livelihoods."

The protesters, representing 16 full-time skippers and crews based on Mersea Island, set out in secret early yesterday to catch herring.

Mr Jowers said: "Whatever the minister men say, we know the stocks are plentiful and we see no reason why foreign fish should be imported where there are fishermen kicking their heels at home."

The fisherman blame the ministry and the Government for bowing to Common Market pressure to ban herring fishing. But they claim that continental boats are netting more fish in a week than the islanders catch in a year.

A Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food spokesman commented: "We shall not be helping fishermen if we allow stocks to dwindle to nothing; illegal fishing will only make matters worse for everyone."

Hull landings: For the first time for more than two months trawlers will land fish at Hull for Easter as a result of the docks board announcing that catches will be handled at a new low rate of £12.50 a tonne.

Ships have been diverted to other ports because landing charges at Hull were considered too high.

ell's Angel gets 15 years and judge gives warning on violence

Our Correspondent
Shrewsbury

Justice Sheldon passed sentence at Winchester Crown Court yesterday on 24. Hell's for their part in a clash of chapters in the New Year Easter.

Judge said: "If you yourselves to be above and able to do as you are wrong, particularly you think that the welfare that has been done in this case will be done. The lesson I intend will be a lesson to that

sentences ranged from 15 years' jail for one convicted of attempted

he 11-week trial 24. Its were convicted of assembly and five were acquitted. It was at Windsor Chapter of Hell's that was attacked after to join other chapter of England chapter. and other weapons and Richard Sharpe, 32, president of the Chapter, was left for after he had been shot times, once in the head, 45 pistol by an unknown.

Judge said he hoped that itness among rival would not lead to violence: "If it does it provide one more demonstration of the shallowness and

irreality of the claim that the Hell's Angels are a peaceful, law-abiding and worthwhile organization.

"Any who may be convicted of taking part in any violence that may occur can expect little if any leniency from any court."

Earlier, the judge said no one would have any criticism of the Hell's Angels if their objects were to promote motor cycling, give legitimate help to members and support charitable affairs, as they had sometimes done.

"If your organization or any of its branches or chapters have acquired an unsavory reputation, it is because you have gone out of your way to create it by combat such as that demonstrated in the course of this case, which shows little or no regard for ordinary civilized behaviour or for others beside yourselves."

Kenneth Littlefield, aged 25, vice-president of the Wessex Chapter, who was said to have shouted "shoot him", had been convicted by the jury of attempting to murder Mr Sherman, and riotous assembly.

Sentencing Mr Littlefield, of

Wimbledon Close, Camberley, Surrey, to 15 years' imprisonment on the attempted murder charge, and 10 years to run concurrently on the riot charge, Mr Justice Sheldon said: "You are sufficiently intelligent to understand that riot or gang warfare of such proportions as disclosed in this case, particularly when firearms are used,

will not be tolerated in a civilized society."

The 23 convicted of riotous assembly and their sentences were: Paul McLean, aged 25, of Orchard Street, Rainham, Kent (five years' imprisonment); David Baycock, aged 30, of Cadbury Heath, Bristol, and Peter Lake, aged 31, of Camberley, Surrey (five years); Edward Hinchliffe, aged 26, of no fixed address; Paul Hatch, aged 26, of Warburton Road, Southampton; Peter Hicker, aged 29, of Baker Street, Reading; and John Howarth, aged 28, of Ringwood Road, Ash, Surrey, (all four years); Stephen Gill, aged 28, of Graveline Park, Wokingham, Berkshire (32 years); Stephen Howson, aged 30, of Heathlands Rise, Dursley, Gloucestershire; George Asher, aged 29, of Chestnut Close, Blackwater, Hampshire; Stephen Burney, aged 24, of Whiteman Lane, Southampton; Kevin Cannon, aged 23, of Donegal Close, Camberley, Surrey; Howard Heale, aged 24, of Ludlow Road, Southampton; and Stephen Waterman, aged 22, of Park Road, Southampton (three years).

Terry Jerome, aged 28, of Mount Pleasant, Basingstoke; Christopher Pitman, aged 26, of Field Road, Reading; two years; and Garry Ross, aged 25, of Peveril Road, Southampton; Ian Turner, aged 24, of the same address, and Stephen Tanner, aged 24, of Hardland Road, Reading (15 months).

James James, aged 23, of Hay Road, Southampton; Stephen Wilkinson, aged 22, of Greenwood Road, Crowborough, Berkshire (six months); Peter Ashton, aged 25, of York Road, Aldershot (18 months); suspended for two years; and Glynne Barker, aged 26, of Wincanton Road, Reading (six months, suspended for two years).

The boy was originally banned after running on to the pitch and using obscene language.

Football ground ban on boy extended indefinitely

From Our Correspondent
Aldershot

Aldershot Football Club won its fight yesterday to have a supporter banned from its ground. When its case against a boy aged 16 came before Aldershot County Court, the boy agreed to the temporary injunction against him, entering the ground, which was granted at a previous hearing, being extended indefinitely.

Mr Michael Cosway, the club secretary, agreed not to press a claim for £3000 damages against the boy, who was said to have tried four times to beat the club's ban on his attendance

at home matches. The judge awarded costs against the boy. They may amount to £250 if they include costs incurred at a previous hearing.

The boy's father said his son might try to persuade Aldershot Football Club to let him back into the ground. In a year or two, "he has advised him to write a letter of apology and maybe appear before the club committee", he said. "He has learnt his lesson."

The boy was originally banned after running on to the pitch and using obscene language.

Meter reading aid

Some 300,000 shillings were issued free yesterday by the National Gas Consumers' Council to help people read gas meters and control the amount they use.

Eddystone flight

Trinity House, which controls Britain's lighthouses, is to build a £50,000 helicopter landing deck at Eddystone Lighthouse, near Plymouth, to help maintenance work and the transfer of supplies.

Science report

Medicine: Alcohol and mortality

Medical Correspondent
all the warnings about the effects on health of an self-indulgent life style, the crumb of comfort, for reluctant to give up their alcohol may reduce the risks of heart disease. research studies have shown that people who drink a or two of wine daily seem fewer attacks of coronary disease than those who total abstain.

for the drinkers, that has been put into gloomy project by a big health organization in Yugoslavia. A group of Chronic Diseases andiology enrolled more than men aged 35 to 62 and

part of a detailed examination collected information on their drinking habits. The new were kept under observation for the next seven years. As might have been expected from earlier studies, both total and non-fatal attacks of coronary thrombosis were less frequent in men who drank alcohol at least once a day.

However, when total mortality was assessed, the men who drank least (none claimed to be total abstainers) The reduction in regular drinkers' death rate was more than counterbalanced by deaths from cancer and strokes. No association was found between alcohol consumption and deaths from cancer (although other studies have shown links between alcohol

and cancer of the mouth, pharynx, larynx and oesophagus). The high mortality from stroke among the non-drinkers seems to have been due to their raised blood pressure, which may have been due to their high consumption of alcohol. Otherwise the study (like most epidemiological research projects) throws little light on causation. Alcohol in moderate amounts may indeed protect against heart disease, but as long as drinkers continue to smoke more than average, have high blood pressure, and have more accidents, overall the effect of drinking seems likely to remain hazardous to health rather than beneficial.

Lancet (March 22, 1980, p. 613).

There are compelling reasons for this confidence in Brazil: Brazil is the 5th largest country in the world, 7th largest in population, 8th in the Western World in Gross National Product, 8th in industrial production, and one of the leaders in agriculture and animal husbandry. It has one of the largest hydro-electric potentials - aggregating about 209 million kilowatts - plus vast mineral resources, such as iron ore, uranium, vast amounts of bauxite, as well as gold, tin, copper, manganese and tungsten. Moreover, the country's steel, petrochemical, automotive, aeronautical and shipbuilding industries are highly developed.

Brazil's manufacturing industries are expanding at an accelerating pace, and are becoming increasingly competitive in international markets.

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Mr Scargill to give evidence

Mr Arthur Scargill, president

of the Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers, said yesterday that he would give evidence on picketing to the employment committee of the House of Commons on April 2.

He had been with the company for 26 years.

"There had been doubt that Mr Scargill would attend the hearing because of his objection to being limited to answering questions instead of making a full statement.

The company was not represented at the meeting.

ing of the employment committee, I was contacted by telephone last night and subsequently received a telegram this morning.

"The terms of the telegram and telephone conversation indicate that the committee have now reverted to their original invitation which will allow me to present an oral submission in response to the general points raised in their correspondence.

"This will cover all aspects of picketing and the Employment Bill currently before Parliament."

Its service companies, particularly those engaged in project engineering and specialized technologies, are quite active internationally, associated in many cases with organizations of other countries.

A vigorous market economy, a favorable business climate, a highly developed infrastructure, a plentiful supply of skilled and semi-skilled labor, and vast growth potential stimulated on a growing scale by a government policy focusing on free enterprise combine to make Brazil the great new frontier for international investors. Discover for yourself the investment opportunities and incentives that Brazil has to offer. Ranging from the import of quality Brazilian manufactured products in every sector to setting up new operations with Brazilian firms, or profitable capital investment.

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WEST EUROPE

Union Jack
burnt
by French
farmers

From David Wood

Strasbourg, March 25

No scenes in the Westminster precincts during recent years could compare with today's invasion of the grounds of the Palais de l'Europe in Strasbourg by French farmers demonstrating against any impending unfavourable decisions on Community farm prices.

The European Parliament, sitting to consider the commission's farm price proposals for 1980-1981, virtually emptied to watch the hundreds of farmers from all regions burst through the barricades and run up against a formidable phalanx of riot police equipped with protective shields, drawn batons, tear gas rifles, ordinary rifles, and fire extinguishers.

The police were highly disciplined and mobile and no serious clash occurred. But the flags of Western Europe suffered.

The frontage of the Parliament building usually flies flags of all member-states of the Council of Europe. Today they were all hauled down by the farmers, the Union Jack being the first to come down and be ceremoniously burnt. Then regional names went up to fly instead, the Marne and Vaucluse leading the way.

Britain was special target for the French farmers, because Britain has taken the lead in trying to freeze farm prices. Some of the banners read: "Dahors au perfide Albion" ("Out with perfidious Albion").

By chance M Pierre Pflimlin, Mayor of Strasbourg and a vice-president of the European Parliament, was in the chair as British MEPs returned from the burning ceremony to make their instant complaint. M Pflimlin assured Mr John Taylor that the Union Jack would be quickly replaced.

A British Conservative back-



French farmers protesting in Strasbourg over EEC farm prices prepare to hang an effigy of Mrs Thatcher.

beach motion was tabled before the flag did fly again, Mr David Harris (Cornwall) and several colleagues will now press to debate tomorrow a motion:

"That this house deplores the failure of the French police, who were present in considerable numbers, to prevent the desecration of national flags, particularly the burning of the Union Jack at the entrance to the European Parliament building."

Mr Harris and others considered that there was a failure by the authorities to call up hundreds of police reinforcements who had been surrounding every approach to the Parliament building from early morning.

Meanwhile, amid signs that the European Parliament will vote tomorrow in favour of the Community's farm lobby, Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission, today came near to showing open disgust and unconcealed despair at the prospect of a general retreat from the trenches dug when MEPs rejected the 1980 budget in December. Be as brave now as you were then, he said in effect.

The Commission has proposed farm increases in 1980-1981 averaging 2.4 per cent, with a super levy pending excessive milk production.

The farm lobby in Parliament has proposed a 7.9 per cent average increase that is begin-

ning to attract support except among British MEPs, and the Parliament's budgetary flank could easily be turned by the Council of Agricultural Ministers meeting tomorrow.

"I appeal to you," Mr Jenkins said, "in your deliberations today and in your votes tomorrow to stick firm to that concept which you formed and affirmed three months ago."

"The Commission have made their proposals in the light of the budget's rejection. We have respected your courage and determination. For your sake more than for ours, do not saw off the branch of the tree upon which the rest of the economy. They must, however, tackle the agricultural sur-

pluses. Parliament had opted on the

Parliamentary report, page 14

'Political will' key to EEC payments plan

Continued from page 1

of an adequate and acceptable solution to current problems".

That "given the political will" is of course the key qualification that Labour MPs were not prepared to allow Mr Lawson. Government spokesmen had no evidence to offer that any political will exists among the other eight Community members to agree the Commission's proposal for massive spending in Britain.

Whatever the domestic political dispute, the Government evidently believes it has shrewdly struck a psychological blow for Britain in being positive for once in this bitter debate over the budget. The document's key phrase, to official British minds, reveals at last and more explicitly than ever before the existence of a Community "mechanism" that could channel its British spending programmes whatever money the heads of government might agree.

Thus, in theory, the solution for virtual elimination of the British net contribution is there for the taking.

The key paragraph of the EEC document runs as follows, with special emphasis on the last sentence, in the British official view:

The basic concept is of a special, temporary and ad hoc action in the shape of a number of expenditure programmes within regions of the United Kingdom, which would be financed by the Community. The programmes must be clearly defined and must respond not only to the aim of increasing United Kingdom participation in Community expenditure, consistently with the objectives of Community policies, but also to the need to meet Community interest in the need for convergence of its economies. From the work which the Commission has undertaken no possible programmes it is already evident that the resources of the European Council must be available to provide for this purpose could be fully used in accordance with the principles and criteria set out.

The Commission suggests that the measures should be limited, perhaps to three or four years—a point arousing no objection in Whitehall, on the assumption that such deadlines have a way of slipping.

The point here is that the Commission has been discussing, for some time with British officials, the kind of spending programme that could be adopted. No one was disclosing which ones yesterday, but clearly there are enough around—coal development for instance—in which EEC money could be substituted for the bulk of the British portion, thus leaving them still "part financed".

This way, British receipts from the Community would rise, and our "net" contribution fall. That would meet Mr

Russians hand back two British soldiers

Bonn, March 25.—Two young British soldiers who strayed across the border into East Germany last weekend were handed back early today by Soviet authorities.

Fusiliers Stephen Oliver, aged 18, and John Patrick, aged 18, of the First Battalion Royal Highland Fusiliers, were handed over to the military police about 1 a.m., a Rhine Army spokesman said.

The two soldiers were fit when they were returned at the East-West German border crossing point of Helmstedt.

The soldiers, both from western Scotland, were based at Hennig, near Iserlohn. Fusiler Oliver is from Linwood and Fusiler Patrick from Greenock.

—Reuter

The Pope likely to visit Paris in June

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, March 25

The Pope is likely to visit France at the beginning of June, and make a speech at the Unesco headquarters in Paris, probably on the occasion of the meeting of its executive committee.

There is no official confirmation of this news either from Unesco or from the French Bishops' Conference. But it is becoming stronger as time goes by. The Pope would be responding to an invitation of Mr Amadou Matar M'Bow, the director-general of Unesco.

Commission officials were slightly astounded, if gratified, to hear Mr Lawson describe the document as "an important new step forward" since it contains nothing that has not been discussed many times before.

Diplomats from other member states were not sure whether to attribute Mr Lawson's remarks to an uncertain grasp of EEC affairs or whether to take them as a genuine signal of British willingness to compromise after several weeks of tension and polemics, over the budget issue.

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: The new Commission paper was hailed as "a helpful and useful document" by the Foreign Office.

Its significance, according to British sources, is that it shows clearly that the whole problem of the British budgetary contribution can indeed be solved within the framework of the Community's rules.

Mitterrand-Berlinguer talks to foster Euroleft idea

From Ian Murray

Paris, March 25

Relations between the French Communists and Socialists seem to go from bad to worse. Undeterred by this, however, in his dream of an alliance of the left, M François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader, has just held a long private meeting with Sig. Enrico Berlinguer, the Italian Communist leader.

The meeting, according to M Marchais, was particularly regrettable because it was held at a time when "reactionaries and Socialists are preparing another hard blow at French prosperity and agriculture".

The Communist deputies, who have been meeting in conference in Le Havre for the past two days, reaffirmed in their final motion their belief in "a free and sovereign

France". It was the sole duty of the elected representatives of France to decide the affairs of the country, they said.

The Giscardian Government, the motion went on, was converging with the Socialists to gain further support for its "anti-social and anti-national politics".

The Socialist deputies, who have been holding a day-long conference in Marseilles, heard that in fact it was a "Giscard-Marchais" pact which was endangering France. Mr Laurent Fabius, the Socialist spokesman, accused both men of forming "an internal Yalta", which had created a pact against change.

The Communists and Socialists seem to agree only in their condemnation of the Government. Both conferences heard a sarcastic comment on President Giscard d'Estaing's pronounce-

ment and the authorities in Lombardy.

Under the agreement, subject to approval by a Lombardy regional parliamentary committee, the company will also meet the final cost of decommissioning.

According to the parent company of Givaudan, Hoffman La Roche of Basle, the total cost of the accident was about £23m.

The meeting also represents a step towards a possible creation of a "Euroleft", an ideal very much in line with the aspirations of both M Mitterrand and Sig. Berlinguer.

The Italian leader has recently been strengthening his contacts with social democratic leaders in Europe, believing that a strong "Euroleft" would be an important factor in the search for détente.

OVERSEAS

Soviet leaders absent from meeting amid talk of renewed illness

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, March 25

Both President Brezhnev and Mr Kosygin, the Prime Minister, failed to appear today for the opening session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic, of which they are both members, and Soviet sources have suggested that they are both unwell again.

The Russian Republic is the largest of the 15 Soviet republics, and elections to its Supreme Soviet—the nominal equivalent of a local parliament—were held a month ago, all except two of the Politburo are members and made election speeches. It was for his election speech that Mr Kosygin reappeared in public after a long absence following a heart attack in October.

His absence at today's opening suggests that he has still not fully recovered. He also played no part in discussions with a delegation from Nicaragua, which left the Soviet Union yesterday after signing a series of agreements that considerably increase the ruling Sandinista Liberation Front's ties with the Soviet Union.

Two other top Soviet leaders were also absent from the Supreme Soviet session. Mr Mikhail Suslov, the party ideologist who is aged 77 was absent, and so was Mr Andrei Kirilenko who is in Budapest attending the Hungarian party congress. Only five of the 12 Politburo members who sit in the Russian Supreme Soviet attended.

The absence of the others could be deliberate so as not to highlight the absences of Mr Brezhnev and Mr Kosygin. Tass appeared to play down the significance of Mr Kosygin's absence, saying that he had led the Soviet side in such negotiations.

Mr Brezhnev could also have been expected to meet the Nicaraguans as ideological and party matters were discussed. But sources in Moscow say the

Nicaraguans were told that both leaders were indisposed and would not be able to meet them.

SEAS

Zambian opening to the West cated in Soames talks as enterprise makes comeback

By Alan Ashford

March 25—Rhodesia, with which Soames, Governor of Rhodesia, was re-acting his brief stay in the country this week is not the election of Mozambique's President, but also the clearest indication to establish economic and political ties with the West.

It became apparent that Soames had been worried by the deteriorating state of the economy for some time but felt there was little he could do about it until the Rhodesian problem had been resolved. Now that is out of the way he has decided to put his own house in order.

Though Soames is still committed to establishing socialism in Mozambique, his recent actions and speeches reflect a change of emphasis in favour of a limited return of free enterprise. Business sources in Maputo believe that this, together with the reopening of the Rhodesian border, could lead to a modest improvement in the country's economy.

The President hopes that this revival will be further stimulated by trade and economic assistance from the West rather than from the Communist block countries with which Mozambique has close political ties and on which it depends for military assistance.

Significantly, during his talks with the Mozambique leader, Lord Soames, who returned to Salisbury today, suggested that the repair and rehabilitation of Mozambique's railways and ports could be partly financed by the European Development Fund.

Lord Soames said later that although Mozambique was not party to the Lomé Convention, a strong case for European assistance could be made on the grounds that these railways and ports served countries such as Zambia and Zaire which were Lomé members.

"President Machel

followed up his inefficiency by re-arranging ministers of their own design to people that President Machel did not tolerate in any level.

Mozambique businessman

Lord Soames said he had also

Westminster requiem for murdered archbishop

By Our Foreign Staff

The Archbishop of Westminster is to hold a requiem Mass in Westminster Cathedral on April 2 for Mgr Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of San Salvador, murdered in church.

The Catholic Institute for International Relations has announced.

Cardinal Hume is president of the institute, a voluntary aid and development agency with numerous projects in Latin America.

The archbishop's death was related to the struggle to secure respect for human rights of the poor and oppressed in Latin America, the institute said.

President Machel had emphasized his desire for further "cooperation" with Britain, rather than requesting additional economic assistance, Lord Soames said. It was hoped that the British Government would give encouragement to private businesses that wanted to invest in or trade with Mozambique.

The British Council of Churches expressed "pain and horror at the cruel murder".

At the House of Commons, Sir Keith Joseph, deputising for the Prime Minister, in question time, agreed with Air Marshal Alan Liberal MP for Liverpool, Edge Hill, that MPs would wish to express their sorrow at the killing. More than 100 MPs had nominated the archbishop for the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize.

Vatican response: The Pope, who is head of the San Salvador killing, was deeply saddened", a brief announcement from the Vatican said. The Pope had received the archbishop in private audience a month ago.—UPI.

Leading article, page 17

(Obituary, page 19)



A nun mourns for the Archbishop of San Salvador, lying dead beside her after being murdered in chapel by armed men.

Peking is reluctant to buy British arms

Peking, March 25—A British drive to sell weapons to China and to take part in its development plans has met with little success. British sources said today. There were no immediate prospects of arms sales, and the Chinese response to suggestions for civil contracts had not been encouraging.

During talks here with Mr Francis Pym, the Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday, Chinese officials made it clear that they still considered the British Harrier jump-jet to be too expensive.

China is reported to be interested in buying about 60 of the aircraft and negotiations have been going on for more than two years.

The sources said China recently concluded a contract with a British shipbuilder for two cargo ships, but there was no apparent prospect of warship sales.

According to the sources, many British companies had overestimated the possibilities of trade with China in late 1978.

British industry had indicated that it would appreciate "some gestures to ease the wait" that some smaller contracts first, but the Chinese response so far had not been encouraging, according to the sources.

A hint of impatience crept into Mr Pym's toast at a banquet given in his honour last night by Mr Xu Xiangqian, the Chinese Defence Minister.

British industry is keen to contribute to the modernisation of China and so is Her Majesty's Government, and have put a lot of effort in terms of time, money and technical exchanges into demonstrating how they can help. Mr Pym said, "We want to see a major expansion in civil trade and we have already made clear our readiness to supply a range of military equipment.

Mr Pym, who arrived last Sunday, is scheduled to meet Chairman Hua Guofeng tomorrow before leaving for Shanghai, where he will attend the opening of a British aerospace exhibition.—Reuter

Hungary attack on 'laziness'

Budapest, March 25—Hungary must step up its campaign against lazy workers and lame-duck factories if it is to overcome its major economic problems, Mr György László, the Prime Minister, said today.

He told the communist party congress here that recent economic reforms which included cuts in Government subsidies for factories and more competitive wages must be implemented at all levels of the economy.

Challenge to Assad rule

ICK troops watch -torn Aleppo

By Eric Fisk

via, March 25

000 troops of the 3rd Armoured Division, read out across the south of Aleppo like a 10th century army, sweeping in white over the landscape and fusing over cities as if the old north was about to besiege history.

Assad has ferried 100,000 men up from Qusayr of Syria's 1976 Lebanon—to assert control of central government Aleppo.

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said.

Strike by crews of icebreakers

Helsinki, March 25—The crews of Finland's 10 icebreakers went on strike today after their demands for more pay were turned down by the Maritime Board.

The Seamen's Union said the icebreakers would assist all ships about to enter or leave ports, but after that cargo ships and car ferries must try to break the ice themselves.—AP

Travelling the country is so often what business is all about. And the best way to get straight down to business is Inter-City. Inter-City takes you from city centre to city centre—fast.

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OVERSEAS

MPs in walk-out over Assam blockade by pro-Congress students

From Richard Wigg
Delhi, March 25

The two-day-old agitation by pro-Congress students in West Bengal seeking to impose a complete economic blockade on the isolated north-eastern state of Assam led to a walk out by all the Opposition parties in the Indian Parliament today.

Mr Bal Ram, the Lok Sabha (Lower House) Speaker, refused to allow an adjournment motion as demanded by the three principal opposition parties—the Janata, the Lok Dal, and the Marxist Communists (who are in power in Bengal).

All of them protested, as one of their leaders put it, against a section of Mrs Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress party "organizing a confrontation between the people of one state by another."

Twenty minutes of pandemonium ensued but the Speaker refused to give way.

Opposition spokesmen accused Mrs Gandhi's Government of not taking prompt action against the students, even though urgent national issues were involved. One independent MP pointedly asked whether the Prime Minister was losing control over her party to Mr Sanjay Gandhi's Youth Congress, which is very close to the organizers of the West Bengal students.

As the movement of essential commodities in lorries and by rail continued to be obstructed by the students at three entry points on West Bengal's narrow strip of territory linked to Assam, police made several charges against the demonstra-

tors sitting on the national highway and the main railway line near Bagdogra and Siliguri townships.

More than 50 arrests were made, including the leader of the Bengal student agitators. Today, about a thousand tea workers joined the students sitting on the main road. Local markets were deserted.

Mrs Gandhi's slowdown in moving against the pro-Congress students was also criticized in the Indian Upper House today, where the Opposition is still in a majority.

In an editorial on the agitation entitled "This must stop", *The Statesman* of Calcutta today advised Mrs Gandhi that she should "bring her supposed supporters promptly and effectively to heel".

The Government's motion was adopted last Thursday by 68 votes to 37. The referendum question will therefore read:

"The Government of Quebec has made public its proposal to negotiate a new agreement with the rest of Canada based on the equality of nations. The agreement would enable Quebec to acquire the exclusive power to make its laws, levy its taxes, and establish relations abroad—in other words, sovereignty—and at the same time to maintain with Canada an economic association, including a common currency; no change in political status resulting from these negotiations will be effected without approval by the people through another referendum; in these terms do you give the Government of Quebec the mandate to negotiate the proposed agreement between Quebec and Canada? Yes... No..."

Mr Ryan wondered how an

Politicians settle on phrasing of independence referendum for French-speaking province

The Quebec question in 109 words

From Anne Penketh
Montreal, March 25

Last week's debate opened on Tuesday with a vigorous speech by Mr Claude Charbonneau, the Government's Parliamentary House Leader, on the Liberal constitutional document, *A New Canadian Federation*.

He said the Liberals' proposed Federal Council, a body designed to increase provincial power giving no special status to Quebec, would be a "third eye on the regime which has had problems with its sight for some time".

On Wednesday the debate centred on an interchange between Mr André Raymond of the Liberals and Mr Jacques Parizeau, the Minister of Finance. Mr Raymond challenged the Minister to explain the economic consequences of "sovereignty-association".

What would happen to hundreds of existing federal Crown corporations, including Canadian National Railways, Air Canada and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation? Mr Parizeau replied that some would be shut, some reorganized, and others, such as Air Canada, would be run as joint ventures with the rest of Canada.

Mr Ryan asked what would happen to the freedom of circulation of capital if the Government insisted on Quebec's continuing New Democratic Party.

Mr Parizeau said an independent Quebec would simply adopt federal legislation changing it to read "Quebec" rather than "Canada". This would mean that Canadian chartered banks or trust companies operating in Quebec would have to be controlled by Quebecers.

Mr Ryan wondered how an

independent Quebec, with a smaller tax base, could keep up the services now provided by the federal and provincial Governments. Mr Parizeau replied that independent Quebec would do away with overlapping jurisdictions which were extremely costly. "Everything is being done twice by Quebec and Ottawa", he said.

On Thursday each Parti Québécois speaker addressed a different sector of the community, urging a "yes" vote in the 109-word referendum. The Minister of Agriculture appealed to the fishermen and agricultural workers; the Minister for the Status of Women to women voters; Mr Guy Chevrette to the workers; trade unionists; and Mr Claude Snider to the elderly.

Liberal victory: The Liberal Government of Mr Pierre Trudeau has increased its parliamentary majority in Ottawa to 12 by winning a deferred election in the Quebec constituency of Frontenac.

The Liberal victory gave the party 147 seats in the 282-seat House of Commons here, against 103 for the Progressive Conservatives led by Mr Joe Clark, the former Prime Minister and 32 for the left-leaning New Democratic Party.

The Frontenac election was postponed until yesterday after the candidate died shortly before the national elections of February 18 in Canada.

Among candidates defeated yesterday was Mr Fabien Roy, leader of the Social Credit Party, which now has no members in Parliament. —Reuter.

Commonwealth force sought for Uganda

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, March 25

President Binaisa of Uganda is reported to be pressing for a Commonwealth peace-keeping force to serve in the country after the withdrawal of the 20,000 Tanzanian troops who have been in Uganda since overthrowing the former President Idi Amin.

Tanzania is withdrawing half the force now and the rest are expected to follow within a few months. Despite Tanzanian and Ugandan statements that the withdrawal is in line with the defence agreement between the two countries there is no doubt that President Binaisa would have liked more time to build up his own army.

There has been no official admission by the Uganda Government of a request to Commonwealth countries. But diplomatic sources say that tentative approaches have been made to some countries including Britain and Nigeria.

President Binaisa evaded questions on the subject when he visited Kenya recently for private talks with President Moi, but it is assumed here that he asked Kenya for an assurance of military support.

Kenya is thought to have stopped short of any direct offer of troops, but to have assured President Binaisa of support since the Tanzanian troops leave.

Relations between Kenya and Tanzania would remain strained, and Kenya would not send troops to Uganda while Tanzanian troops are there.

But Kenya would be likely to support a Commonwealth force and even to take part in it if this would not raise political problems with Tanzania. President Binaisa is appar-

ently apprehensive about leaving his country's internal security in the hands of the small and inexperienced Uganda Army. His police force is well below strength, and the Tanzanian Army is his main assurance against arrest.

President Binaisa's approaches for a Commonwealth force appear to have been made without the approval of his interim Parliament, where he has many opponents. There is no indication here that Britain is anxious to support his proposal, although the weakness of his position is recognized by Whitehall.

President Binaisa today confirmed that Uganda's first election since 1964 will probably be held later this year—six months earlier than had been proposed—and that leaders of the Uganda National Liberation Front are opposed to a revival of rival political parties.

He was addressing UNIFL branch leaders in Kampala on the first anniversary of the formation of the group by exiled Ugandans at a meeting in Mombasa, northern Tanzania, shortly before the overthrow of President Amin. He said the merging of numerous political parties and groups into one

In an obvious reference to a recent statement by Dr Milton Obote who was ousted by President Amin in 1971, that he would return to Uganda to lead the election, President Binaisa said that any Ugandan wishing to stand as candidate must return to register first as a voter. Registration would probably start in May or June.

Leading article, page 17

Threat stops Pinochet Manila visit

Manila, March 25. The Philippines said today it had called off an official visit by President Augusto Pinochet of Chile because "foreign terrorists" had entered the country with the intention of killing him. Chile yesterday broke off diplomatic relations with the Philippines.

President Pinochet, who took the cancellation of his visit as an insult, told cheering crowds in Santiago yesterday of his decision to sever relations.

"I can't accept that my country be slapped in the face," he said. General Pinochet also had trouble in Suva, Fiji, where demonstrators pelted his car.

Mr Carlos Romulo, the Philippines Foreign Minister, announced the arrest of eight foreign terrorists, whose mission, he said, was to kill the top leaders of the Philippines and Chile.

He refused to give their nationality, but said that four more were still being hunted by the Philippines military. Mr Romulo said the eight terrorists were arrested on Sunday in Manila on the eve of the arrival of President Pinochet and his 70-man delegation. —Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Polish voters give low place to party men

Warsaw, March 25. The leader of a small Roman Catholic group in the Polish Sejm (parliament) drew a surprising surprise in Sunday's national election and finished ahead of Mr Stanislaw Kowalczyk, the Minister of the Interior, according to official results released today.

Mr Janusz Zablocki, the leader of the Znak (Sign) group, moved from eighth place on the original ballot to second place in the results with 59.71 per cent of the votes.

His showing was one of several surprises in Sunday's single-list ballot. Voters could either cast their ballots without making changes in the recommended order of candidates or strike out some names, producing small but significant shifts in decimal points in the final results.

Mr Kowalczyk was placed first in the list of official candidates but slipped to sixth place in the results.

He was not the only senior candidate whose position on the list of elected deputies was lower than that on the original ballot form.

In one constituency, Mr Emil Wojtaszek, the Foreign Minis-

ter, dropped to the bottom of the list of elected deputies in his constituency, Urbanowice.

Defence Minister, second to fourth

Five members of his party also dropped although all were elected.

Mr Piotr Jaroslawski, former Prime Minister, lost power during his party congress after running for re-election from his place in the Sejm.

Officials said that the result of the election in 1977 was not valid and gave a new endorsement to candidates chosen by the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party.

Both figures were in the previous election in 1977, but said that the Poles had rejected the ballot for a by-election.

Results from region showed a turnout there in the regions. —Reuter.

Singapore cypher clerk blackmailed by Russian lover

From Our Correspondent
Kuala Lumpur, March 25

A cypher clerk working at the Singapore Embassy in Moscow was given a ten-year jail sentence today after he pleaded guilty to two charges of passing secret information to his Russian mistress.

The Singapore District Court was told that Alan Wee Kheng, a married man aged 30, had been seduced by a Russian woman agent, named as Luba Lobov Mzuba, who later blackmailed him into giving transcripts of coded communications.

Mr Wee's case was the first of its kind under the Official Secrets Act in Singapore and the court was told that he committed the offences for 10 months.

Among the secrets he passed on to his Russian blackmailer was the embassy's top secret cypher code, the court was told.

Mr Wee, in the Singapore diplomatic service since 1967, was posted to Moscow two years ago.

Thais 'voluntarily repatriated' of refugees

From Neil Kell
Bangkok, March 25
Officials of the National High Commission for Refugees are in the definition of the voluntary repatriation, 175,000 Kampuchean in Thailand.

Informed sources say it is now apparent change policy on the part of the Nations official about voluntary being carried on for puchean refugees. Dang, eight in Kampuchean will not come.

They have no information of a Kampuchean who have gone to the border in the past.

The immigrants taken in have been controlled of those who are those who are other than voluntary.

Because the movement of people not reducing establishing the own country, p food, seed and more food and

That argument going on going on but it is being done in a certain way.

Some camp is taking say the side, because the official movement of stability to the government.

They are all but say told, they are receiving the make the best of

That argument with growing in camp, is pursued.

Most of those believed to be of soldiers and the control of former Prime Minister widely regarded as moderate and the non-communist opposing the V

The Pinochet's official policy in the door policy on the border in fact is to make a Khaosan and Khaosan and centres are not them and they come to form camps at border.

Every day soon reach Khanh-Diem returned to the which are in assault by Viet Khamer Rouge g border warlords their authority.

OPEC, unemployment, Détente and World War III?

Our world is currently facing more real crises than at any time since World War II.

And as the crises grow so our perspective lessens.

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Times every day. And keep better informed.

Clip this in



BL CARS ARE CHEAPER TO RUN, WHATEVER SIR GEOFFREY SAYS.

The cost of running a car could change quite dramatically when Sir Geoffrey Howe unveils the Budget today. For example, increased petrol costs, V.A.T., road tax, purchase tax and import surcharges (on foreign cars) would all increase the cost of motoring.

But if you're buying a new car, you don't need a crystal ball to tell you which range of cars will run out cheaper, whatever Sir Geoffrey announces.

The BL range of British cars.

LOW RUNNING COSTS.

Compare these British cars with their foreign-made competitors and BL cars almost certainly give you the edge on running costs.

LOW COST PARTS.

Because they're British, spare parts for BL cars are not only more readily available.

They're also cheaper.

LOW COST INSURANCE.

Insurance too, is generally cheaper for BL cars compared to foreign makes.

However you compare BL's flag carriers for Britain, whether it be on running costs, performance, or comfort, they come through with flying colours. And the number of 'extras' we fit as standard makes BL cars even harder to match.

HOW BRITISH IS A 'BRITISH' CAR?

Fact 1. BL is the only major car manufacturer that is wholly British owned.

Fact 2. During 1979, all Ford Capris, Granadas and Talbot Horizons were foreign-made; over 80% of Ford Fiestas were foreign-made and over 43% of Vauxhall Cavaliers were foreign-made.

THE BEST OF BRITISH BONUS.

If you buy a new Rover, Princess, Dolomite, Allegro or Marina you'll get another bonus:

The Best of British Bonus.

Such an incredibly good deal that you could save a fortune. And such a generous trade-in on your old car that you can't afford to ignore it. And on Maxis, we've cut the recommended price by 10%, so you're guaranteed to drive a bargain.

See your BL dealer for a test-drive today.

You'll probably never see IT PAYS TO BUY BRITISH such low prices on BL's great British cars again.



Rosemary Brown examines the way five families balance their books

How will the Budget affect your spending power?

After today's Budget, will you be feeling richer or poorer? And either way, do you know what you plan to do about it? If you are forced to economise, have you some idea where the savings could come? Alternatively, if the Chancellor leaves you with extra money, are you at risk of frittering it or have you isolated a specific priority?

As you sit down this evening to assess what effect the Budget will have on your standard of living, it could be a timely moment to work out just how and where your income is disappearing.

With the duty on alcohol widely

tipped to increase, do you know for example the total amount (including trips to the pub) you spend annually on drink? Or taking weekend outings, visiting friends and other incidental journeys into account, how much travelling really costs you? What about entertainment? Purses? Or the multiple "extras" incurred by the children: school trips, swimming, pocket money and so on?

We investigated in detail with five households how they budgeted and tried to ascertain with them how their economic situation today compares with a couple of years ago.

Only one family knew down to their last £100 precisely what they were spending on their different needs and activities, although the retired couple we spoke to also had a pretty shrewd idea of just what their pension was buying—and they were alone in never dipping into overdraft.

Four out of five admitted that doing the sums with us made them realize how comparatively extravagant they were about certain items and said that, much as they would dislike it, if essential they could see areas for cuts. Other than our bachelor girl however, all were—or had been—making economies; and

top of the sacrifice list were clothes and holidays.

Although two of the three families were (or were about to be) educating at least one child privately, and one mother had fairly regular domestic help, none were in the "au pair" stakes or had children at public school.

With assistance from Reward Surveys, we estimate that without a private income, a scholarship or help from grandparents, it would be virtually impossible for a couple to maintain anything like their normal lifestyle and send two children to boarding school on net

earnings of less than £15,000. And most of the couples we questioned in this bracket said that, regardless of the tax cuts, both parents working, cheaper holidays (or no holidays), less entertainment and more DIY had become the order of the day.

Most mixed business perk was unquestionably the company car; and certainly for middle-income families, the biggest relief would be a reduction in mortgage interest rates. It was significant, however, that no one was expecting a rosy Budget or anticipating any additional spending power. Like you and our panel below, I'll be doing the arithmetic tonight.

Net Annual Income

£7,570

Expenses	
Mortgage	£1,208
Rates	£407
Gas, Electricity	£380
Insurance	£260
Telephone, TV, HP	£310
All petrol, upkeep of Mini	£628
Boys' pocket money	£150
Parents' personal spending	£520
Newspapers	£52
Housekeeping	£2,080
Fishing, swimming	£145
Meals out, etc	£130
Presents	£200
Additional oil on house/garden (1979)	£450
School uniform account	£120
Misc incl vet, cleaners, credit card interest	£110
Child benefit savings	£416
Total	£7,566

A holiday costing £600 will come partly from saving on decorating, partly from child benefit money.

David, Jenny and their sons, Peter, 15, and Richard, 12—are spending a fortnight on a boat this summer. Two years ago, it would have been impossible. They were overdrawn and ruthlessly cut all non-essentials: clothes, entertainment, even the heating.

But a substantial rise and profit-sharing bonus have increased David's net salary to £5,750. With child benefit and Jenny's part-time earnings as an auxiliary nurse they now have an income of £7,570. David, a marketing executive, gets BUPA cover and a company car.

Their budgeting system sounds deceptively simple: £40 a week housekeeping out of which Jenny pays all food, drink, clothes (except school uniform), cleaning products and miscellaneous small items; £5 personal spending money each; child benefit is substantially saved; most of it will probably go towards the holiday this year. David pays all other bills.

Mortgage interest for a five-room house on a pleasant estate and linked endowment savings accounts annually for £1,208; rates, £407; gas and electricity, £360. Subtract other basics—telephone (£70), life insurance and household contents policy (£260), TV rental (£150) and

The budget? "I'd like to see the standard rate of tax come down," thought I don't think it will," says David.

Net Weekly Income

£43

Standard/Average Expenses

Rent and Rates	£10
Gas, Electricity	£4
Food, milk, etc	£18
Cleaning products	£1
Newspapers	£2
Laundrette	£0.50p
TV Rental	£0.78p
Budgie Seed	£0.33p
Batteries	£0.21p
Haircuts	£0.62p
Window cleaning	£0.33p
Total	£37.27p

£5.73p a week for all clothes, presents, cleaners, shoe repairs, postage and misc.

More than anything else, George and Mary would like a weekend by the sea in the old days. But on a retirement pension (but including a supplementary benefit) of £43 a week, it is just a daydream.

Not that they are complaining. They live in a three-roomed council flat with a small garden and have a budget, a television enough to eat, sufficient clothes, get the newspapers every day and are within easy walking distance of the library.

has some appeal, but, looking more keenly at those 300-odd gleaming volumes, I am less certain. Most of them are, as you might expect, professional examples of book production. Their creators take full advantage of the flexibility in design and the whirling of colour allowed by photolithographic printing. But when it comes to "newness" in the sense that they have something fresh to say, and when it comes to "talent" in the sense that they understand the inner coherence which picture books call for, then we seem to live in a time of dearth.

There are several, broadly economic, reasons for the polished and not-so-polished inadequacy of these books. At an individual level, for instance, there is considerable pressure on a freelance picture-book illustrator, once he has found a successful formula, to go on repeating it—and a quantity of books last year by once-celebrated illustrators had all the characteristics of old concoctions newly labelled to keep up the annual royalties. Only geniuses like Randolph Caldecott could work to such a routine without losing their individual touch.

More generally, illustrators and publishers experience a variety of other pressures which arise from market forces, which currently seem to be fostering two mutually exclusive types of

daily. "369, shocking isn't it? But we manage."

They manage, in fact, extremely well. Everything is spotless: windows are cleaned every three weeks ("I have to go on the ground floor in London") and clothes go regularly to the laundrette and cleaners. Mary likes wearing make-up, they both have a monthly haircut and even after paying all the outgoings on the flat—£10 rent plus £2 each for gas and electricity, which goes weekly into a fuel savings plan—they still always ensure that their five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren receive a present at Christmas. "It's the blooming postage," grumbled George. "That's something we really noticed."

Any other routine expenses or occasional luxuries? George does not bother, "no need, the shops are close" and they receive the £10 Christmas bonus.

More than a third of their income goes on food. Mary says the price of butter is a worry and they only occasionally buy fruit, but, by prudent shopping, go for the cheapest—their budget is £40 a week. Milk is extra. So is Guinness, which Mary who is anaemic has been told by the doctor to drink

so he can't blame

James Marshall and the comic tradition in MacGooses' Grocery by Frank Asch (Kestrel £1.95).

picture book. On the one hand there is a growing number of elaborate coloured folios, emanating from such places as Milan and Munich, which are the product of co-publishing agreements that provide a comparatively cheap way of issuing what look like expensive books. The fact that the artwork is apparently done with gilding more in mind than books, and that the texts

are contrived, and often badly translated, is of less significance than the glamour of the production. Needless to say the fashion has affected British artists, too. Apart from its exploitation of the gimmick treasure-hunt, Kit Williams's *Masquerade* is also notable as an anthology of the painterly tricks that have long been the preserve of Continental illustrators.

Among so much that is didactic or sophisticated it is a pleasure to discover a few books from 1979 that have no pretensions, whatsoever. There is, for instance, *Pinocchio* and *Selby* Wetherington's *Teddy Bear Baker* (Warne £2.95), a successor, after 30 years to their much-loved *Teddy Bear Coalman*—a sign of repetitious annual dilution of talent here. There is Frank Asch's *MacGooses' Grocery*, illustrated by James Marshall (Kestrel £1.95), whose plain line-and-wash drawings fit perfectly into the comic simplicity of the tale.

The Times/Penguin Competition is open to anyone in the United Kingdom and Eire who has not previously had a children's picture book published or accepted for publication. Rules for submissions must be obtained by sending to Penguin Books Ltd, 536 Kings Road, London, SW10 0UH.

Brian Alderson

Every

picture sells

a story

Earlier this month *The Times*, in conjunction with Penguin Books, announced a competition to encourage new talent in the making of picture books. Called before a court of critics and librarians, however, *The Times* and Penguin Books might not find it altogether easy to justify so liberal an act. After all, it might be said there were more than 300 picture books published in 1979 and the best sort of competition would be one that encouraged people to stop producing the things rather than to produce more.

At first glance this argument

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SPORT

Football

Kennedy comes in at Brooking's expense against untried rivals

From Norman Fox
Football Correspondent
Barcelona, March 25

Ron Greenwood, the England manager, dropped a broad hint for the summer's European championship when he announced the team to play Spain here tomorrow. As expected, the side closely resembles the one that beat Northern Ireland 5-1 last October but with the interesting substitution of Kennedy for Brooking in midfield.

The fascinating question is whether he feels that the partnership of Brooking and Keegan, which at times has been the brighter aspect of England's football, has nothing more to offer or he is playing politics to avoid showing his complete hand to the Spanish whom England will meet again in the European championship in June. Such a move is under pressure from some of the team's stars, with the Spanish manager, Ladislao Kubala, choosing a team full of inexperienced players and deprived of all but two from Real Madrid and Barcelona.

The more erudite names in a team also struggling to find its potential, Asensi, Del Sol, Queiroz and Sastre, are missing but significantly, perhaps, Cunningham, of Real Madrid, is also unavailable for England.

Real Madrid have a busy time ahead domestically and, according to Mr Greenwood, have done well in asking for Cunningham to be substituted because of "muscle problems" but they allowed him to train with England, which he did naturally without great enthusiasm.

Greenwood said: "Cunningham would be a substitute but added that in different circumstances he would have included him because it was appropriate here." Cunningham's confidence may be helped by that diplomatic answer.

The most important subject of Brooking's omission brought a no more revealing reply from Mr Greenwood than: "There is nothing wrong with him. The decision is just my feeling. It is not related to his match fitness." He may play again in the meantime. Kennedy, who last played in November against Bulgaria after an absence of two years, will give physical power to the left side of the team, but reservations are provoked by a fear that he may be playing slightly out of position in midfield, that now seems to have accepted less mobility. Nevertheless, Kennedy is an honest worker with a hankering after attack, a physical ability to take his marker on a deviant mystery tour of the pitch could leave Kennedy with

space to feed Woodcock and Francis as well as move forward himself.

To compare the team with the last selection against the Republic of Ireland in February is misleading for it shows seven changes. Mr Greenwood knows that tomorrow's side will be having their last full-scale competitive match before the European championship and the foreign-based players are unlikely to have had much for their home internationals and possibly the game against Argentina although Keegan now hopes to be available for what he calls "that important match I would not want to miss." Obviously, the game tomorrow is under pressure from some of the team's stars, with the Spanish manager, Ladislao Kubala, choosing a team full of inexperienced players and deprived of all but two from Real Madrid and Barcelona.

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another casualty

Today's meeting at Worcester became the 57th lost to the weather this National Hunt season after it was called off yesterday after further overnight rain left the course waterlogged.

Israelis rely on experience against Irish

Tel Aviv, March 25.—Israel begin their 1982 World Cup campaign here tomorrow with a group four qualifying match against Northern Ireland. The group also includes Scotland, Sweden and Portugal.

Jack Mansell, Israel's English coach, is looking further ahead to the World Cup qualifying games with Portugal.

He said at Scotland's headquarters at Trafalgar: "If we can frighten them now, they won't be coming here with too much hope in seven months' time. We will be looking for a result because it would be a great psychological boost for them. They could come to Hampden for the World Cup qualifying, finding: 'We have beaten them twice and we can do it again'."

Scotland's new cap, McLeish, will play in his Aberdeen role just in front of the back four, which will be patrolled by Hansen of

West Ham United.

Mansell, who has a record of 10 wins, 10 draws and 10 losses, has not made the first team and all eyes will be on him to show the qualities which persuaded Liverpool to buy him. Cohen will play in midfield instead of defence.

Silkman walks out: Barry Silkman has walked out on Maccabi's team to return to the team he was on loan from Manchester City. And his attempt to return to Maine Road has been blocked.

Silkman was Malcolm Allison's first signing, from Plymouth Argyle for £80,000 in 1974, before he joined City last year. Tony Book, City's general manager, said: "He has a contract with Maccabi until June 10 and until he gets international clearance he can't play for City, as he has with Maccabi."

One of the reasons for Silkman's decision could have something to do with his being called up for Israel's national service.—Agency

Aston Villa have another injury crisis to overcome before tonight's match against Norwich City at Villa Park. Mortimer, Villa's captain, who has missed the last two games with a torn thigh muscle, has been advised by a specialist to rest for another two weeks.

He will be missing again with knee and groin injuries respectively and four other players are under treat-

ment.

In the past two years, Villa have

reached the semi-final of the FA Cup

and the final of the League Cup.

They have won the League Cup

and the FA Cup.

They have also won the League

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PARLIAMENT, March 25, 1980.

Imminent announcement of plans to compel trade unions to pay more towards the cost of strikes

House of Commons
It was not right that trade unions should be able to count on the taxpayer to support the families of strikers and the vast majority of the country agreed with what the Government proposed to do.

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry said, when depolarising for Mrs. Thatcher at Prime Minister's question time.

Earlier Mr. Reginald Prentice, Minister of State for Social Services, had indicated there would be an imminent announcement about the issue.

Mr. John Butcher (Coventry, South-West, C) said: "A TUC report has indicated that trade unions spend an average 88p per member on strike pay and an average £3.72 a member on strike.

This supports the Government's contention that trade unions should be more responsible for their own members' welfare during times of strike.

Sir Keith Joseph—Yes. He is right. We do not want strikes to go on and we do not have more money to spend on them. We think it is only fair that when strikes are called unions should bear more of the cost than they do now.

Later, replying to Mr. Dafydd Wiggin (Carmarthen, Plaid Cymru) he said the Prime Minister was satisfied that reasonable progress was being made in the legislative programme announced in the Queen's Speech.

Mr. Wiggin—The time is ripe to abandon the theories underlying the legislative programme set out in that speech and to abandon the idea that you can stand men in the steel industry to receive supplementary social security benefits. This is time to reconsider the whole attitude towards creating employment.

Sir Keith Joseph—We believe that our policy is the only policy that can achieve the underlying purposes of both sides of the House—a higher standard of living, more employment and better public benefits and social services.

We do not believe it is right at the moment that the trade unions should be able to count on the taxpayer to support the families of strikers while people are on strike. We think the vast majority of the country agree with what we propose to do.

The matter was first mentioned during questions to the Secretary of State for Social Services.

Mr. Michael Meacher (Oldham West, Lab) asked when the Secretary of State expected to be in a position to make a statement to the House.

Mr. Prentice—Our proposals will be seen to have many healthy effects in improving those he has commented.

Mr. Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab)—If a strike is arranged and serves a term of imprisonment, will the family be treated in the same way as the families of other prisoners at that prison at the time?

Mr. Prentice—We will be concerned in this imminent announcement with the effect of a trades dispute, not the effect of a criminal act.

Mr. Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North, Lab) asked if the Secretary of State was on strike and someone who has committed a crime and why should their families be treated differently in the payment of supplementary benefit?

Mr. Prentice—Because we take the view as does a majority of the general public, that if people go on strike either they as individuals or their unions should make financial provision for the needs of their families in that situation. (A Labour shout of "Disgraceful".)

Minister to look at transplant code

Dr. Geraint Vaughan, Minister of State for Health, told Mr. John Farr (Harroworth, C) that he was ready to consider strengthening the wording of the code of practice for the transplantation of human organs relating to the anonymity of donors.

Dr. Vaughan (Reading, South, C) said: "I am sure the House shares Mr. Farr's concern at the distress caused to a family in his constituency. I note that when he introduced his Bill he told the House that he had complained to the Press Council. I am sure that is the right method of pursuing this matter."

Farr—Would the minister reconsider in the light of recent events, that the code of practice is couched in casual terms? Would he ensure something stronger is written into the Health Services Bill now before the House?

Dr. Vaughan—Yes, I can understand his point of view and will certainly have a look at the wording and see if it needs strengthening.

NHS drug bill running at £740m a year

A suggestion that private patients should get drugs on the same basis as NHS patients obtained was rejected by Dr. Keith Joseph, Minister of State for Health.

Mr. Richard Alexander (Newark, C) had asked how much it would cost to allow private patients need to buy drugs to get them on this basis.

Dr. Vaughan (Reading, South, C) said: "The department does not maintain a register of the numbers of private patients. I cannot give a specific figure."

In any event, with so many competing claims for scarce NHS resources at this time, the Government does not feel it can give a high priority to this proposal.

Mr. Alexander—The private patient pays as much to the NHS as does the NHS patient, so it is only fair that he should be able to get drugs on the same basis.

Dr. Vaughan—I appreciate his feel-

Travel to work

Mr. Peter Rees, Minister of State, Treasury, in a written reply, said: "It is estimated that the current cost to public funds of making rail and bus fares to and from work allowable for tax purposes would be about £270m.

In England in 1979, excluding hospital pharmaceutical services, was almost £740m. The bulk of this was incurred by general practitioners and general practitioners and dispensed by general practice pharmacists.

The average total cost per person was over £16 a head.

It could not be prudent to entertain a proposal to increase this already enormous sum. Particularly, we do not want to take resources away from areas of greatest priority.

Mr. Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on social services (Gateshead, West, Lab) asked: "The question is quite outrageous—to ask for drugs on the NHS when the private sector make no contribution to the training of nurses or doctors and exploit NHS equipment.

Dr. Vaughan—I do not accept that. Only this morning in a committee I listed the private institutions which train nurses.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Budget.

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Debate on forestry and life-sentence prisoners.

More than 400 schools offering assisted places

House of Lords
When the report stage of the Education (No. 2) Bill was referred to the Library (Lab) for the opposition, it was an amendment to give a new look at the idea how the assisted places scheme was working, how effective it was and whether it was equitable.

The amendment to Clause 17 (Assisted places at independent schools) would require the Secretary of State to report annually to Parliament on the number and names of the schools participating together with details on the pupils, cost of the scheme and fees charged by the schools.

Dr. Young, Minister of State for Education and Science said the assisted places scheme was intended to replace the old direct grant school scheme. When this was phased out by the former Labour Government, there were fears people did not express regret at something which had made a notable contribution to the education system.

There are (said) thousands of parents who send their children to maintained schools who care deeply. The amendment was withdrawn.

An Opposition amendment requiring schools participating in the assisted places scheme to have received a satisfactory report by her Majesty's inspectors was rejected by 142 votes to 62—Government majority, 60.

Libyan school in Chelsea not to get diplomatic status

School premises bought by the Libyan Government in Chelsea would not be granted diplomatic status, Lord Bellwin, Under Secretary for the Environment, said in reply to a question from Lord Chalfont (Ind). The Government did not regard schools as being premises of diplomatic missions.

Lord Chalfont had asked whether the Government was aware of the purposes for which the premises would be used and whether it was entitled to the transaction was fully consistent with local and national interests.

Lord Bellwin—As I understand it, the Libyan Embassy has bought the Old Kingsley School in Glebe Place, Chelsea, and intends to use it for educational purposes.

The school is said to be in the care of the London Education Authority, but to a third party who in turn sold it to the Libyans.

This is a matter of essentially local interest and as such is for the local authority. The Government does not have to regard the transaction as such as being inconsistent with the national interest.

Lord Chalfont—This is not just a matter of local interest. These premises have been bought by a foreign government to be a certain representation in international terrorism.

The responsibility (he said later) for keeping an eye on the use must be for the local authority.

It is satisfied with the use that is proposed for them?

Lord Bellwin—Whether or not the premises are suitable for the purpose to decide. If at any time there is evidence to suggest the premises are being used for other purposes, for example, for political purposes as Lord Chalfont suggests then, and only then, would be the time for any appropriate action.

Lord Gorwry-Roberts (Lab) for the Opposition—As these premises are to be used for educational purposes could they even though they are for private education, be subject to periodic inspection as to what goes on there?

Lord Bellwin—Any local authority or central planning permission or user permission for the premises, presumably always has an obligation to ensure it is used for that purpose.

Lord Stansfield (Lab) for the Opposition—Does it mean judging in Libya? Does it mean judging all over the place? He had better keep an eye on them.

Lord Bellwin—I do not know how they define educational purposes in Libya but for these premises it has to be how we define it in this country.

The responsibility (he said later) for keeping an eye on the use must be for the local authority.

They must face the brutal reality that measures taken so far had not proved capable of turning off even the increase in milk production.

The 7.9 per cent price increase proposed was divorced from reality. While the uncontrolled increase in the cost of milk for pure products continued, the Community would be irreversibly damaged if they failed to face now the con-

sequences of their action in rejecting the budget in December.

Mr. John Mark Taylor (East Midlands, Lab), group spokesman on the Budget Committee, called on the Parliament to sit in line with the Government and contain the cost of farm surpluses.

The European Parliament was on the threshold of strengthening its position by direct elections and the rejection of the budget in the Community was brave and right in December was brave and right today.

The Community had shown in the past 30 years that it could do nothing but farm and it must be seen to be capable of doing more.

He was not for developing other policies. He was not for developing other policies. He did not want to dismantle the agricultural policy but he wanted to put right what was economically wrong.

The answer was as classically elegant as it was simple—lower the price for surplus commodities and the surpluses would disappear.

Mr. Neil Blaney (Ireland, Ind) asked why farmers should be asked to bear the brunt of trading agreements and of aid to developing countries.

Mrs. Barbara Castle (Greater Manchester, North, Soc) said that the Community was not to the facts of life was astonishing. It was not that the Community was going to sit back because they went on by year paying farmers to produce food they could not sell. They ruined themselves by stock piling or selling abroad at cut price.

The Socialist Group believed instead of setting higher prices in the present crisis they should

reduce them, higher prices did not benefit the farmers who most needed help but reduced consumption and made the surplus position worse.

Mr. Nigel Gündelach (Ireland, Ind) said that the budget in December was too expensive and too important to be left to farmers alone. There was no justification for a price increase this year.

They might have to find new ways of funding agriculture in order to protect small farmers from unemployment and poverty.

Mr. Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission, said that the Commission's budgetary problems to become the pretext for undermining the CAP.

M. Pierre Pichere (France, Com) said that they were serving the cause of multinationals in a budget which was cruel for farmers.

Mr. Kent Kirk (Denmark, Ind) said they could not tell the farmer not to produce more and more from what he produced.

Mr. John de Courcy Line (Central Midlands, Ind) said that the minister would again sit the Parliament down as they had before. It had been irresponsible of M. Chirac to suggest that a country which did not accept the chaos it had created should reconsider its membership of the Community.

Although the CAP had defects they did not want to destroy it

but to build something greater because the interest of the community as a whole was greater than that of one sector.

Mr. Kenneth Collins (Stratford-on-Avon, Soc) chairman of the Environment Committee, said the cost of agriculture in the Community was too expensive and too important to be left to farmers alone. There was no justification for a price increase this year.

It is the interest of those most directly concerned. They had produced a balanced package reflecting an understanding of the needs of the farm sector and of the political realities of Community life.

If that balance is upset (he said) by the Council of Ministers, spurned on by the Parliament, settling for something different and less rigorous, such a decision will put at grave risk the continuation of the Community's agricultural policy in its present form.

Unless they could find a solution to the problems of the milk sector, they would have no solution at all in agriculture.

Mr. Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission, said that the Commission's budgetary problems to become the pretext for undermining the CAP.

He said "safeguard" advisedly because unless the main essentials of the package were accepted, their agricultural policy would be exposed to the most serious risks.

In the last four years, the budgetary cost of the policy had increased by an average of 25 per cent per year.

Price and production increases in recent years had not resolved some of the basic income and social problems of the rural population: nor had they succeeded in removing or even significantly reducing disparities within agriculture.

The Commission proposals this year represent an effort to redirect the CAP in the long term

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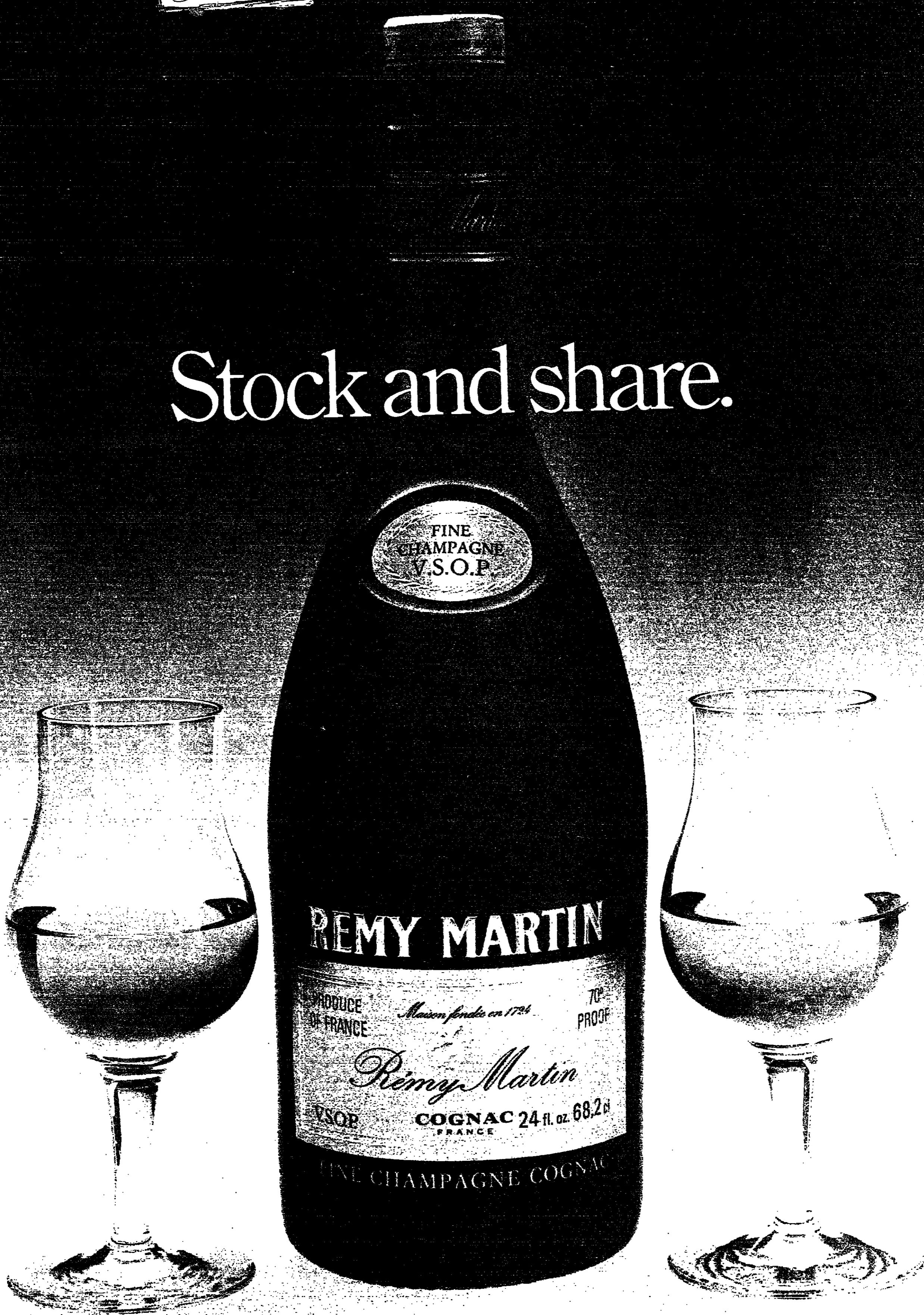
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ASON AND BELIEF

enthronement of a new shop of Canterbury is an that requires the Church land not just to welcome man to lead it but also to is its order of priorities. are three purposes that such as an institution must have in mind: to preach the Gospel, and to do so in ways that will seem relevant to the unconverted; to witness in its social activities that Gospel, to be a of good works as well as faith; to organize itself, internally and in its relations with other Churches, as to the other two objectives. Church will never realize potential if it fails to importance to all three of purposes, but in recent it has seemed to accord too high a priority to the and third. It is poor to the power of an, if Christians can operate effectively with another, but perhaps too time and mental energy in devoted to the development of synodical government, pursuing schemes of reunion with other that have not yet come. Similarly, there is now that the ordination will be another issue. It prove too great a diversion. All these questions matter to the exclusion of the central purpose.

equally important that the should demonstrate its to the Gospel by doing it can to relieve the suffering in the society around it. social work, the urge to

recruit new members with a student self-confidence which suggests that we have nothing to learn, to persuade with a loud voice rather than with the quiet reason of the heart."

The dilemma is a real one, but the answer is probably to be found in the nature of religious belief and in the traditions of the Church of England. The truth of Christianity cannot be proved as if it were subject to the laws of natural science. Faith must always require the leap in the dark, but it is a leap that can be aided by the intellect: not just the heart, but quiet reason, too.

This approach to religion is in accord with the traditions of the Church of England. Sometimes they have led to a distinct worldliness, more recently to what has seemed to be close to humanism in a casket—and indeed there were portions of Archbishop Runcie's address yesterday in which his admirable desire for a dialogue with all people of goodwill seemed to verge in that direction. But at its best the Church has been true to the definition offered by Bishop Creighton in 1899: "the formula which most explains the position of the Church of England is that it rests on an appeal to sound learning." It does not seek to prove its propositions with mathematical precision, but to put its propositions in a form which does not defy the intelligence of learned men. In an age that is becoming progressively more open to religious speculation, it is still important that belief and reason should not be seen as being in conflict with each other.

E MARTYRDOM OF AN ARCHBISHOP

order on Monday night of scar Arnulfo Romero, the Bishop of San Salvador, is king event, and not only of the outstanding qualities of the man. It also shows the stupidity of the assassins, appear to think that they lie the claims for simple which Mr. Romero ed by an act of violence sort. In fact his murderly hardened attitudes in El Salvador still further and lead a bloodshed. Salvadoreans hoped that some sort of reform would be possible last October's coup, the promises which were made, are bound to be disillusioned. Even

Monday's shooting, the appeared to be slipping civil war, because of the on the right to the which are badly needed, growing strength of the revolutionary movements. of Mr. Romero, who died peaceful reform, has it nearer. He was killed because he had a symbol of the need human rights and social Since his appointment in then, ironically, the miltary of the day had him as a man who not cause them trouble. Romero had become a figure in Salvadorean weekly sermons in the of San Salvador, by the

Since then a new junta has been formed, with the participation of the Christian Democrats and the active support of the United States, which is anxious about developments in Central America in the aftermath of last year's revolution in Nicaragua and is trying to promote reform. A far-reaching land reform programme has been announced and the banks have been nationalized. But violence and killings continue, many of them carried out by the security forces.

Mr. Romero's standpoint was that of a committed churchman, in line with the contemporary doctrines of the Catholic Church in Latin America. He gave a cautious welcome to the government set up after the October coup, and then became critical when violence continued. He was sharply critical of the United States for acting to support repressive policies in El Salvador. He also implied that, though he advocated peaceful reform, when all else failed change might have to come about by violent means, through the revolutionary movements of the left. It is not surprising that he made enemies in the heated atmosphere of Salvadorean politics, where the right tends to regard all pressures for change as communist-inspired. But his murder is not going to still the pressure for reform, and ensures that his memory will live on as an inspiration.

CHANGE IN THE AFRICAN BALANCE

establishment of an independent Zimbabwe under a black nationalist government will, if Mr. Mugabe's policies are continued and successful, produce a new relationship in from the Cape to Somalia. The civil war in Rhodesia has kept a group of over economies on the edge of breakdown. A new prospect is up, and it could be

immediately, both Mozambique and Zambia have been relieved of the edge of disaster. Zambia is most from the Rhodesian and Angolan wars which initially blocked all her outlets sea apart from the Chinese-Asian line, whose capacity he first was disappointing which is now decrepit. Copper should flow largely to its markets along its old routes through Beira and Africa. both President Kaunda and President Machel the restoration of Zimbabwe's agriculture's normal productivity to abate the threat of and unrest; the influence of Machel may be seen in the Mr. Mugabe has given to the white farmers and living exports. The political influence of this is important: to lessen the dependence of three upon President Machel's leadership. Not only Nyerere largely inspire the three Presidents in working the Rhodesian solution, a even diverted maize to of them despite Tanzania's growing food shortage. They beholden to him; now they holly their own men.

President Nyerere, besides the front-line presidents insisting on Mugabe's victory last year ejected President from Uganda, where he

Kenya, on the other hand, faces all Tanzania's problems in a law and order role. He proposes to withdraw them before long, but their presence has given him a large measure of control and veto over President Binaisa (his own nominee) even in cabinet reshuffles. (Just as Tanzanian troops in the Seychelles safeguard the socialism they installed there.)

Nyerere's influence has thus been far-reaching, but it is waning and not only in central Africa. For President Binaisa is also struggling for independence. This month he visited Kenya to show it. Ostensibly he wished to discuss the smuggling of coffee into Kenya, the need to improve road and rail links and the anarchy in the pastoral regions which afflict both countries. But he also certainly discussed with the Kenyans the possibility of a reconstruction for Uganda which would not be tied to the (increasingly unpopular) Tanzanian presence and influence of Nyerere's ideological leadership.

The Kenyans watch sardonically as Tanzania shored up as it has been by western and international aid, seeks recovery for new loans and credits. But, after soliciting world bank assistance, Dr. Nyerere repudiated (and still does) its conditions as infringing "our cherished policies of socialism and self-reliance". In effect he is demanding that his socialism must be funded and underwritten indefinitely by the capitalist west; to rub the argument in, he has refused to compensate Louisa for the nationalization of its assets, though indeed he has no money to compensate anybody, even if he felt the obligation. Now, however, his socialism's features, combined with drought, have threatened Tanzania with famine as much as anarchy and drought threaten Uganda.

The border between pragmatic Kenya and socialist Tanzania remains closed, a symbol of Kenya's isolation. But perhaps Tanzania is destined now to change places with Kenya. Africa needs practical measures rather than ideology. Nyerere's services in Uganda merit recognition, but events are calling from him, no less than from other African leaders, a re-examination of his position and beliefs in the interests of his own suffering people.

Withholding of VAT payments

From Sir Andrew Watson

Sir, Now that we have a legally qualified Prime Minister might we not have been entitled to expect a greater respect for our treaty obligations?

It surely offers little encouragement to our citizens to respect our municipal laws if our head of government announces her intention to flout the Community law by which we have so recently agreed to be bound.

It will be interesting to note the reaction of the Commissioner of Customs and Excise towards all those who now threaten to suspend their VAT payments pending a resolution of their dispute with the Inland Revenue. One suspects he may show them that in the long run such threats carry no weight and do not pay.

Yours truly,
ANDREW WATSON.
Tetton House,
Newbold-on-Stour,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire.
March 20.

From Mr Owen Warnock

Sir, It seems that for the United Kingdom to withhold its VAT contribution from the EEC would be to break the law. If this is indeed so I am disturbed that both the Government and the Opposition

should accept it as a proper tactic in the negotiations to reduce our share of the Community budget.

There are occasions when to break the law is a justifiable response to tyranny; we have surely not yet been driven so far. What causes me great concern is that it has not been felt necessary even to try to demonstrate why such a flagrant breach of the law is justified.

The United Kingdom Government voluntarily submitted to the EEC legal system; most of the inhabitants of Britain had little choice but to accept our domestic laws. It would be ironic if the result of this "law and order" government's contribution to respect for the law would be to make the British feel morally free to flout it. Of course that will not be the result: we will be as law-abiding as ever and ashamed at our government's example.

The United Kingdom complains constantly and self-righteously about the French illegalities over lamb imports; it is hypocrisy for the Government to threaten to withhold VAT unless at the same time it states clearly why this is not against the law.

Yours faithfully,
OWEN WARNOCK,
13 Ashley Village,
Coldharbour Lane,
Frenchay,
Bristol.
March 21.

Changes in planning law

From Mr F. J. C. Amos

Sir, Your correspondent Mr Gay (March 15) charges Mr Swinney (February 29) with manufacturing controversy, but then proceeds to commit the same offence himself.

The effect of the changes in the planning law referred to in these letters is to let district councils always have their way in matters of development control except where there is a right of appeal against a refusal of permission.

It is true, of course, that the majority of development proposals only have local implications and may be dealt with very adequately by district councils. However, there are always some proposals which individually or collectively may seriously undermine the purpose of the overall community plan, for the area, which may, nevertheless, be highly attractive to the district council concerned. In the proposed legislation, if a district council decides to grant permission, there is nothing which the county council or the inhabitants can do.

It really is in the public interest that local views should always override the wider community interests? Superficially, county policies and plans may seem remote and obscure, yet through the structure plan procedure county proposals have been discussed with people in all parts of the county and, so far as is possible, reflect their views and aspirations.

As a result, counties have done much to secure an orderly development of town and country and to protect and enhance the environment.

The legislative proposals affecting development control and the approval of local plans will allow a headstrong district council to disregard these wider views and have its own way.

Mr. Gay seriously suggests that these are only "routine amendments to planning law".? Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS J. C. AMOS,
Honorary Secretary,
The Royal Town Planning Institute,
26 Portland Place, W1.

Falkland fishing

From Mr G. White

Sir, Mr. Johnson asks (March 22) for Government help to discover whether there are fish around the Falkland Islands.

I can tell him that the last international football match of any consequence played in southern latitudes was Falkland Islands versus Poland. I stood among some Polish ladies giving support to their team. The truth of the matter is that almost every day several East European fishing trawlers call in the outer harbour of Port Stanley to unload at one or more of their factory ships.

The kind people of Stanley, as sporting as they are sensible, can assure Mr. Johnson that the fish these trawlers catch are very good eating. What neither these ardent patriots nor I, can understand is why Ruth, but not Warsaw or Moscow, needs confirmation that there are tons upon tons of fish around the islands and that every facility can be arranged for British fisherman. Every facility, that is, other than the likelihood of an easy win on the Stanley football pitch.

Yours faithfully,
G. WHITE,
6 Mayfield Drive,
Caversham,
Reading.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Against a reduction in child benefits

From Professor J. E. Meade, FBA

Sir, To reduce public support for the family by economising child benefits has undesirable effects both for the relief of poverty and also for economic incentives. Finding support of low wages for children is a main cause of poverty; and the payment of child benefits is for this reason a main weapon for

benefit plays here. Far from being part of a package of benefits which for some people actually make it more worth while not work than to work" child benefit, in the words of the Conservative Research Department, "has an important part to play in increasing work incentives. This is because an increase in child benefits helps the employed family but not the unemployed family (because an increase in child benefit is matched by a corresponding reduction in unemployment or supplementary benefit)." Furthermore, child benefit is not taxable which strengthens Mr. Burt's argument that it should be viewed in the same way as personal tax allowances.

Unlike unemployment benefit, supplementary benefit and various means-tested payments child benefits are paid to the parents regardless of their earnings; and for this reason their development in replacement of these other social benefits for children removes a main disincentive to earn at the lower end of the income scale. Their finance is expensive; but there are few forms of public expenditure which are as advantageous for incentives as well as for social welfare.

Yours faithfully,
J. E. MEADE,
40 High Street,
Little Shelford,
Cambridge.
March 23.

From the Director, Child Poverty Action Group

Sir, Ronald Burt's case for the de-indexation of unemployment and other social security benefits (March 20) rests largely on the assumption that these benefits currently act as a major disincentive to work. He does not, however, produce any evidence to support this assumption. Official figures, in fact, show that hardly anyone is better off out of work than in work, although it is true that there is a larger group who stand to gain only a few pounds on return to work, especially if they do not claim all the means-tested benefits available to them. But a DHSS analysis of actual cases concluded that this financial disincentive is only one of a number of factors and that it does not in itself deserve more than a small proportion from seeking and finding work. The availability of jobs is the crucial factor, and personal health is also important.

To the extent that there is any problem of disincentives, the DHSS civil servants argued that "the solutions lie in increasing the income of those in work, not in cutting the real value of benefits."

It is worth remembering that flat rate unemployment benefit for a couple with two children is a mere £33.35 a week plus £8 child benefit which is also paid in work. To cut benefits which are already well low can only mean real hardship for the unemployed and others.

Unfortunately, Ronald Burt misunderstands the role that child

benefit plays here. Far from being

part of a package of benefits which for some people actually make it more worth while not work than to work" child benefit, in the words of the Conservative Research Department, "has an important part to play in increasing work incentives. This is because an increase in child benefits helps the employed family but not the unemployed family (because an increase in child benefit is matched by a corresponding reduction in unemployment or supplementary benefit)." Furthermore, child benefit is not taxable which strengthens Mr. Burt's argument that it should be viewed in the same way as personal tax allowances.

A truly "courageous" Budget would make cuts in government expenditure (which includes the "hidden welfare state" of tax reliefs and exemptions) at the expense of the better-off who benefit from last year's Budget in order to make it possible to protect the poor from the ravages of inflation and unemployment.

Yours faithfully,
RUTH LISTER,
Child Poverty Action Group,
1 Macklin Street,
Drury Lane, WC2,
March 20.

From Professor C. V. Brown

Sir, Your leading article today (March 24) is incorrect when it states: "Because child benefits are not means-tested they do not deter the individual from working more without any disincentive effect."

People's work will wish to work less if child benefit (or any other element of unearned income) increases. This has long been known to be true if people value extra leisure (the "income" effect of intermediate economic texts) and has now been confirmed by a large number of empirical studies in the United Kingdom and United States.

The argument may be easier to grasp intuitively if we consider the effect of not raising the benefit. Families will be worse off in real terms and will need to work more to maintain their previous living standards.

This argument of course leaves open the question of whether child benefit should have its real value maintained when living standards are falling.

Yours faithfully,
C. V. BROWN,
Ben Loyal,
Chalfont Road,
Bridge of Allan.
March 24.

Government reform in Ulster

From Mr Jeffrey Dudgeon

Sir, In the absence of devolution the Conservative manifesto promised Northern Ireland local government reform. A charitable view of the now-grounded Atkins initiative is that it was intended as a last attempt to find agreement on devolution before proceeding to implement the plans of Airey Neave. Assessment of the Republican strategy of political assassination is dependent on Mrs Thatcher's next move. If the process of integration is further impeded as it has been since Mr Atkins replaced Roy Mason the strategy must be judged successful. For it was the murder of Lord Mountbatten that brought the Mason/Neave policies reversed. There is obviously no agreement on devolution, just as a legislature in Belfast is pointless and any centred government structure is fuel to the paramilitaries, by virtue of its instability. Direct rule is popular and requires permanency through re-insertion of an upper tier of local government. The Conservative Government cannot escape its commitment even if it must continue to pay lip service to some future return of Stormont.

It cannot have escaped the notice of the Prime Minister that external pressures have lessened. Senator Kennedy has failed to become the Democratic nominee for the Presidency and Mr Haughey's indifference to anything short of Irish unity obviates any concessions to Dublin. Though local government reform will be resisted by the SDLP and categorized as a return to Protestant ascendancy, it will be under the direct supervision of Westminster for the first time. The House of Commons would not tolerate discrimination or sectarianism.

Social service spending

From Mr H. W. Mellor

Sir, In referring to the "substantial contributions made to voluntary agencies providing residential care", Mr. Hanson (March 7) overstates the case for local authorities. These contributions are made to help the resident pay the fees, and the voluntary body is doing what the local authority would otherwise have the responsibility for, and generally doing it at less cost. It is only very exceptionally that payments are made to the organizations themselves, for example to extend or improve the homes they run. My organization is well aware of this, for it administers a non-governmental fund that goes a little way towards stepping into this breach.

I am not one whose pastime is "denigrating public agencies" certainly not Mr. Hanson's, nor do I maintain that voluntary bodies are alone in innovation and experiment: but I know that they often make a valuable contribution to local social services. They run a shoestring, but they need that shoestring badly, and it is not good enough to accuse them by saying that "informal" caring systems should not be relying on financial subventions from the public authorities.

Families, neighbours and friends—"the informal sector"—are one thing: voluntary bodies are another. To make even a small cut in grant aid to the latter may mean the sacking of one or two paid staff, and could be lethal to the organization itself. Local authorities that make a marginal saving on their budgets by cuts of this sort need to be sure that this is what they intend.

The National Corporation for the Care of Old People has had the benefit of Mr. Hanson's personal devotion to voluntary organizations, and would be sorry if his enthusiasm for statutory social services caused a misunderstanding of issues that are very important to the voluntary sector.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH W. MELLOR,
Director,
National Corporation for the
Care of Old People,
Nuffield Lodge,
Regent's Park, NW1

Natural highways

From Mr J. Liley

Sir, John Young, in an otherwise succinct article (March 20) warns us two old chestnuts: that the Rhine, and by inference other water routes, is a "natural highway"; and that moving goods by water is attractive only if the distances are great.

On the contrary, the Rhine has a fierce current, rock shelves and shoals, and in winter ice and fog. That is to say, so much traffic through a willingness to build locks, dynamite the rapids and develop nimble craft. Other Continental waterways are entirely artificial, and much of the traffic short or medium-haul. Industry is attracted by their efficiency, and the public blessed by a stimulating spectacle which London and Nottingham, for instance, safety lock. Lorry traffic and the destruction of town centres are not disconnected.

The concession that John Young refers to stems from lack of publicity for Continental methods and perpetuation of the myths to which I refer.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LILEY,
Inland Voyages (Bookings) Limited,
14 The B

Few people need reminding of the fact that last winter was the bleakest, most treacherous in years.

It was the winter of the burst pipe, the disappearing 'B' road, and everyone's discontent.

In the North of England, the conditions were nothing short of Arctic, when Clare Tapsfield, a local vet, set out on her daily calls.

It was the afternoon of 30th December.

The roads were more suited to a one-horse open sleigh than a 66 brake horse-power saloon.

As the good lady was soon to discover, when her car skidded on a patch of ice and disappeared into a drift.

Fortunately, Miss Tapsfield walked away without so much as a bruise.

Her car, however, had more than the odd dent to show for the experience.

In fact, the damage to the bodywork was such that it simply wouldn't budge.

With the result that the gallant 'Thorpers' of Thurgoland (the nearest garage for miles) were called upon to tow it away.

Once it was safely in their care, Miss Tapsfield promptly put in a claim to us, at Commercial Union.

Whereupon, we arranged to assess the damage personally, ourselves.

On the Tuesday after the New Year's holiday, our man muffled up, and set off on the rugged road to Thurgoland.

But before he could report his findings, he first had to find the car.

To help him in this simple

task, the garage kindly suggested he use a shovel, and point him in the direction of a six-foot snowdrift.

When he eventually found Miss Tapsfield's car out of storage, he decided that it was saving.

And we immediately agreed to settle in full.

Then all our man had to do was dig a path to the salvage truck.

A mere 20 feet away.

We won't make a drama out of a crisis.

Waiting for the thaw would have meant freezing the payment for Miss Tapsfield's new car.



Stock Exchange Prices

Day of waiting

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 24. Dealings End, April 11. 5 Contango Day, April 14. Settlement Day, April 21

5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

City Office

Hampton &

01-256-7831

1979-80												1979-80												1979-80														
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Atlas Copco
compressed air systems.
A force you can turn
into profit.
Atlas Copco Air Systems Technology for Generations To Come.

Stock markets
Index 430.3, up 3.1
Gilt 64.40, up 0.21

Sterling
1910, up 72 pts.
ex 72.7, up 0.5

Mark
ex 89.7, up 0.1
Id
9.5, down 525

Money
th sterling, 181-181
th Euro \$ 19-19-1
th Euro \$ 19-19-1

N BRIEF

may buy German ernment urities

United States Treasury said yesterday that it West German government marketable securities current balance of \$300m (£156m) marks.

an official assets in are now on deposit West German Federal close to the 7 per cent rate. The United did possibly obtain a ant rate on the non-de securitises.

output up

offshore crude oil pro-

cess to an average 1.66

barrels a day, up

from 1.60 million in

and 1.50 million in

1979.

decision delayed

ision on whether to

with the British

advanced gas-cooled

reactors for Heysham

ess has been delayed

by the Cabinet com-

energy, but it is

to give approval.

Guthrie

Derby will be free on

bid again for Guthrie

ations group and Mr

ites, Guthrie joint

director reckons that

pay as much as it has

er to win.

profits down

profits at Reckitt &

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16 per cent to 25m

The group blamed

difficulties in its

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acial Editor page 23

order

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tes Aereos (Sata) of

has placed an order

re than £5m with

ospace for a 48-seat

oprop 748. Delivery

place in June.

stocks up

production during

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use to 695 million, equal

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Shell deal

he Italian state-owned

bons corporation is

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the sale of paraffin-

products from the

mica plant at Saline

in Calabria.

order

tein and Koppel, the

erman engineering com-

as won 200m Deutsche

£49.5m) order from

four large bucket

excavators.

Abnormal stock levels and high interest rates depress industry

By Patricia Tisdall

Management Correspondent

Manufacturing industry's short-term prospects have deteriorated in the last month, according to the survey of trends issued by the Confederation of British Industry today.

Output is expected to dwindle to compensate for abnormally high stocks and sluggish demand. Companies' profitability and liquidity are under acute pressure from high interest rates and businessmen expect little relief from the Budget.

Stocks of finished goods have risen sharply in the last four weeks, despite the steel strike. Out of the 2,049 industrialists surveyed, 28 per cent reported that their stocks of finished goods were "more than adequate" in March, compared with 24 per cent making the same assessment a month earlier.

The abnormal build-up of stocks in anticipation of the steel strike started in November. By December the percentage balance of manufacturers reporting higher levels had more than doubled to give an index reading of 15 compared with 7 in the preceding month.

The index remained stable until February, when it climbed to 16, and the latest survey shows a further jump to 18 points, which compares with a reading of only 2 for March last year.

A downward slide in volume of output has corresponded with the increase in stock levels. The percentage balance relating to volume of output has swung from plus 25 to minus 12 in the last year.

Looking ahead to the next four weeks, 30 per cent of manufacturers expected a decline in output volume against

26 per cent who expected a decrease a month earlier.

There has also been a drop in orders in the last month, with 51 per cent of manufacturers reporting that their total order books were below normal.

In February the figure was 44 per cent.

Not surprisingly, the decline in orders is most apparent for companies in the "metal manufacture" sector. Export orders, however, although they were below average, remained fairly steady.

There were big variations in the export fortunes of different industry sectors. The chemicals, coal and petrochemical sectors reported relatively strong export demand while that for textiles was weak.

In a cautious introduction to the survey, CBI economists conclude that there has been a weakening of demand for British manufactured products in the last month.

They add that "the impression of less strong world demand is supported by the movement of commodity prices which have weakened noticeably in the last month, possibly by more than can be explained by the rise in world interest rates".

Adding to the squeeze on company finances caused by high interest rates is the divergence between wholesale input and output prices in Britain. Wholesale output prices rose by only 18 per cent in the year to February while input prices increased by nearly 29 per cent.

Worsening prospects for an early fall in interest rates in the light of the latest banking figures have caused the CBI to revise upwards the £6.75bn financial deficit it predicts for the industrial and commercial companies sector.

Pre-Budget rush for consumer durables

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

Retailers were grateful but

puzzled yesterday at what

appears to be a jump in pre-Budget buying of consumer durables and other hard furnishings in the home.

They were puzzled because the Chancellor is not expected

today to make any radical

changes to value-added tax

Sales of spirits, wines and

cigarettes, items on which the

Chancellor has been widely

expected to increase taxes

has finally shown some sharp

increases over the past few days

but the rush does not appear

to have reached remarkable

proportions.

The Comet Radiovision

chain has seen sharp sales

increases in consumer durables

in every category in the past

week and Mr Richard Pease,

Comet's managing director, be-

lieves that after allowing for

inflation there has been at least

a 15 per cent increase because

of pre-Budget buying.

He said: "Our actual sales

increases have been far above

this but after allowing for our recent marketing push and other factors there seems definitely to have been a pre-Budget rush."

The rise in hard furnishings

sales has not been every re-

saler's experience—Selfridges,

part of Sears Holdings' depart-

ment store chain, reported

"nothong special" on durables,

although returns from the John

Lewis Partnership's department

stores showed a marked increase.

In the week ended March 15,

the John Lewis stores and radio-

and television sales increase by

35.9 per cent compared with

the same period last year.

Speculation about the

Chancellor's likely increases on

drinks and tobacco—around £1 a bottle or more on

spirits has been widely fore-

cast and possibly 10p on a

packet of 20 king-size cigarettes

—has brought people to the

shops this week. But Tesco

Stores reported an increased

demand but "not really a

rush" with brandy as the most

popular buy.

**BNOC shares sale plan
delayed until autumn**

Legislation to introduce private capital into the offshore interests of the state-owned British National Oil Corporation have been delayed at least until the autumn.

As a result the £700m that a share sale was expected to raise will not be available to affect the 1980/81 Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, when it would have been of most value.

In a reply to a Parliamentary question yesterday, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, said the Government intended to carry out its intention of bringing private capital into BNOC's North Sea operations, but in view of the full legislative timetable it could not be done in the present

session. Legislation would how-

ever be introduced as soon as

possible.

Mr Howell has fought a

losing battle to find a way

through the complexities of

bringing in a Bill which would

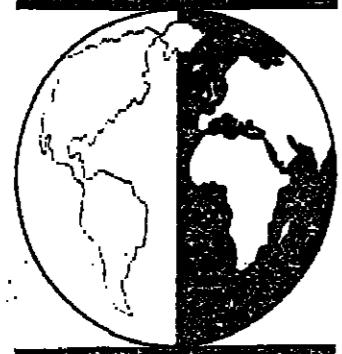
create a separate North Sea

company in which shares could

be offered in time for negotia-

tions to take place over the

reassignment of participation



Former bank chairman on £51,000 bail

Sigmo Giordano Dell'Amore, former chairman of Italy's biggest savings bank, the Cassa di Risparmio delle Province Lombarde (Cariplo), was yesterday released on bail of 100m lire (£51,000).

Sigmo Dell'Amore, who is 78 and in delicate health, was one of 40 bankers and industrialists arrested in March 4 in connection with the embezzlement scandal at Italcase, the central institute of savings banks.

GM move abroad

General Motors is considering setting up parts manufacturing plants in Peru and Yugoslavia, according to an American trade publication. General Motors would not comment.

Short time at Seat

Seat, the Spanish car manufacturer, faced with falling domestic sales and rising stocks, has asked for government permission to put most of its 31,000 workforce on short-time.

Honda venture

Honda is to produce general-purpose engines in Yugoslavia in a \$4m (£1.84m) joint venture with a Yugoslav agricultural equipment producer, making it the first Japanese car maker to operate in an East European country.

Oilfield shown off

China showed its newest oilfield at Rengliu in Hebei province 95 miles south of Peking to foreigners for the first time yesterday. The field was first developed in 1975.

Du Pont patent claim

Du Pont has filed a 100m yen (£185,000) claim for damages against Nippon Gakki, a Japanese manufacturer of household equipment which has allegedly violated a patent protecting Du Pont's building material used to make countertops and bathroom walls.

German prices up

The West German import prices index rose 1.5 per cent in February to 190.8. Base 1970. This was a 24.3 per cent rise on the previous year and follows a 26.6 per cent rise in January over January 1979.

Saudi oil minister dismisses environmental objections to nuclear power

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

A six-point strategy for an international-energy programme which could "move our world away from the edge of an abyss" was outlined yesterday by Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian minister for petroleum and mineral resources.

He blamed world media for not contributing constructively towards informing the public of the true situation. "The salient features of energy should be stressed as a whole, with special reference to the relative scarcity of oil; the urgent need to limit its use to sectors where existing technology limits the use of an alternative, and the necessity to accelerate the efficiency of oil use even in these sectors", he said.

In a clear reference to nuclear power, he urged the removal of environmental constraints. The danger of energy shortfalls arising from dwindling oil stocks was, he implied, less than the hazards associated with the removal or at least the mitigation of constraints on the development of nuclear fuel.

"Although such a move can be bit hazardous, it does not presage a disastrous commonly shared. Impending energy shortfalls on the other hand would bring about a world catastrophe which could undermine world civilization", he said.

"Decisions must be taken now by the leading industrialized countries aimed at the intensification of a host of energy sources which occur in abundance and whose prospects look quite promising."

In addition to developing energy sources other than oil, the minister's programme involved greater energy conservation by industrial countries and technical and financial help to develop resources in energy-deprived areas.

"I am surprised, not to say

such a grave problem that they could probably jeopardize the structure of the world energy trade."

He said that protectionist moves could be dangerous and the Community would try to provide countervailing arguments.

"The Community still has

more to lose than to gain from generalized protection and we have to find an alternative solution to industrial adjustment," he said.

"I am surprised, not to say

such a grave problem that they could probably jeopardize the structure of the world energy trade."

He stressed the importance of leadership, and urged the selection and appointment of managers for character and personality as well as for technical ability.

"Junior managers in industry have too often been inadequately trained and, what is worse, too often bypassed by

more senior management going over their heads to union representatives, and using the union communication channel in a vain attempt to get a management message to the shop floor."

Yamani call for unified energy policy

Although energy sources such as coal and hydroelectricity could be used by developing countries, most have opted for oil. "The question then arises as to whether the industrialized countries, by overconsuming world oil supplies, have already deprived the developing nations of their fair share", he said.

He blamed world media for not contributing constructively towards informing the public of the true situation. "The salient features of energy should be stressed as a whole, with special reference to the relative scarcity of oil; the urgent need to limit its use to sectors where existing technology limits the use of an alternative, and the necessity to accelerate the efficiency of oil use even in these sectors", he said.

Wealth would only be created if management inspired trust in the workforce, Sir Hector Laing, chairman of United Biscuits said. If star of redundancy could not be alleviated there would be huge resistance to the technological changes which British industry would have to make if it were to survive.

As well as increasing security and encouraging employees to take a financial stake in their company, Sir Hector advocated positive steps in breaking down divisions between wage and salary earners. The aim would be to introduce a single status in industry.

"If we are to reap full benefit from the wealth-creating potential of new technologies we will need to formulate and put into practice human relations policies which are as revolutionary as the technology" he said.

He stressed the importance of leadership, and urged the selection and appointment of managers for character and personality as well as for technical ability.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Lasmo's Ninian build-up

ers in Lasmo are not yet reaping its of their venture into the high-risk of independent oil exploration: the looks of the 1979 results they a long in coming. The figures are better than those forecast last at the time of the bid for Oil in, with 1978's £10.73m loss (on a £1m) transformed into a profit above the line, and a change in calculating petroleum revenue cut the charge by £3.5m) helping a net surplus of £8.69m.

moment this is just being applied the accumulated deficit on shareholdings (now down to £17.61m), but an's output still rising, and contriv. Hewitt and Bates oil in the he Oil Ex acquisition, this year will erit wiped out and dividend pay-

of the Oil Production Stock which issued in 1976 as a sweetener to its unsecured loan stock issue, are benefiting from the Ninian already: after an 11.82p net pay-unit at the interim stage, they are ceive another 30.89p per unit net.

position has effectively been over the past year—and not financial position, though thanks to payment, borrowings were down to the end of December, despite ending of £30.5m during the year. important in the short-term: but in the long run is the fact has, with the acquisition of Oil on, secured itself a future after ns out. The success of the drilling in the North Seas, the Philip Sharjah is likely to be more for the shares (off 3p to 44p on yesterday) than the dividend: but the immediate prospect of a return will not do them any harm.

& Law
end

S or not noted for dramatic gestures, Law caused a ripple of excitement when it pushed up its dividend cent at the cross level. That set the market wondering about similarly generous dividend will emerge from the life assurance Prudential and Legal & General, y publish results today.

Equity & Law's dividend is up by earnings up from 3.6p to share; it is able to do this by down unappropriated surplus cash, obviously a once-off exercise which feels justified in doing given the dividend restraint and the fact that little point in retaining substantial funds.

has implications for dividends over years. They should continue alongside the partners of controlled which Equity & Law can foresee but earnings now have to catch up. short-term it could help the shares, ding nearly 8 per cent with the 1980 and thus about 13 points above or average. A share, then, that a good way into a sector which the recession with equanimity more than can be said for many stocks.

& Colman
ry in
1 America

all the usual troubles now gnawing at United Kingdom manufacturing—high interest rates, sterling's and slack demand—Reckitt & has been hit by particular difficulties its North American operations, combination of the two pushed pre-

tax profits down from £61.3m to £51m last year.

North American profits slumped from £7.8m to only £1.4m chiefly due to excess capacity in potato processing with the performance of the mainstream food retailing side good apart from last year's Morton acquisition.

Elsewhere in North America the Sunset leisure division made up its first half set back although heavy losses in a part of Windsor & Newton offset this. But Reckitt has shown a welcome ability to chop out the lossmakers and profits should recover sharply in 1980.

The other problem area was Brazil where price controls and inflation halved profits to £2m. Otherwise it was largely a matter of swings and roundabouts geographically. But for a group earning four-fifths of its profits overseas, Reckitt has been buffeted by the strength of sterling with squeezed export margins trimming £1m from profits and the conversion of overseas profits another £7m with strong showings in Australia and New Zealand in local currency terms virtually disappearing.

After exchange movements on current assets of £7m and £5.2m of closure costs in North America, retentions slumped from £21.1m to a shade under £5m, and the cash outflow—with a £40m capital spending programme—rose £11m to £73m. The £20m rise in borrowings pushed interest charges up from £4.8m to £8.5m although the still strong balance sheet with gearing only up from 29 to 37 per cent does not point to any immediate need for its first ever rights issue, especially with the way working capital has been kept under control.

Faced with another cash outflow this year, the fighter financial position over the last couple of years must have been a factor behind Reckitt's decision to scale down its pharmaceutical ambitions, and it is now not planning to move more deeply into the ethical market.

Selling on eight times fully taxed earnings, which are unlikely to show underlying growth of much more than a tenth this year, and yielding 7.1 per cent at 172p, with the dividend also growing more slowly after last year's exceptional 41 per cent in the gross to 12.1p only just covered by current cost earnings, the shares have well and truly lost their glamour rating as the Beecham of the 1980s and are likely to move in line with sterling where only a small decline would put the group back on its growth track.

United Newspapers

Still trading Strongly

Recessionary fears and talk of a fall in overall advertising revenues of as much as 5 per cent this year has cast a shadow over the newspaper industry and provincial groups (who rely heavily on job advertising) in particular after three years of burgeoning profits.

But whether or not United Newspapers' 19 per cent profits jump to 28.2m for the full-year represents the peak of the cycle, the group is not pessimistic.

A 54 per cent increase in total net dividends to a level still 2.6 times covered, the promise of a one-for-one scrip, and news that results so far this year are well ahead of last, were enough for the market to lift the shares 12p to 40.5p.

Advertising revenues advanced 24 per cent last year with volume rising 10 per cent and United claims that so far at least there have been no signs of a significant fall off.

The shares now yield of 8.5 per cent and are on fully taxed p/e ratio of around 7 and look solid enough with the only real doubts centring on the long-term challenge from local radio and other incursions into newspapers' traditional markets. Bolstered by cash of £6.1m—almost £1 a share—the group should be able to keep profits around the £2m mark this year unless there is a really dramatic shakeout in advertising or the current dispute with the National Graphical Association dries in.

Business Diary: Girl torque • Zimbabwe and IoD

It, that the members of the United Kingdom of Business and Professional women should have a dive since the Sex Discrimination Act came in?

Pay Act was 1970 and came into 1975, the year that Discrimination Act

Membership of the I.D., whose forty-first conference takes place next month, from a 40 year high of 3,000 in 1968-1969 to 444 branches (1975) in 407 branches last lowest in three

to general secret and Young, however, by legislation does not right bearing" on the

president, Audrey tells me: "We are self-reliant. We have been fighting to be able to go to work and now they have a job and with house come to meetings."

Today she will be at the I.D.'s headquarters in Pall Mall, discussing how to strengthen the Salisbury-based I.D. branch. "If ever there was a need for a voice for private enterprise, it is going to be right now," she told me.

Membership, about 500 when I.D. was declared, took a dive because of anti-British feeling but now, thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Rowe and branch stalwarts, it is back roughly to its old level.

There are about 10 black members, and new applications,

The trend towards more budget looks like being followed by another towards more Chancellors. The Confederation of British Industry, I hear, is to launch a competition in the women's magazine Family Circle to find a lady who would make a good Chancellor.

The winner will take home £1,000, a most useful contribution to any family budget. Details are to be published in the October issue of the magazine, and the final will be held in London in March—just before the next Budget.

This is not a pre-Budget hint to Sir Geoffrey Howe to move over. Two of the ten CBI directors are headed by women, Dorothy Drake (Information) and Sonia Elkin (small firms).

Photograph by John Manning

Never on our knees: Rhodesian delegates Flora and Peter Rowe and IoD packed lunch in London yesterday.

admitted for window dressing, but because they have jobs entitling them to membership.

One man's meat... Whether or not Sir Geoffrey's Budget will be good for Tory digestives remains to be seen, but it has already stuck in the throat of former Tory MP Charles Simeons.

Simeons set up the two-day conference on Control of Toxic Substances and proposed United States/EEC legislation thereon, which starts in London today. He had the wheeze of suggesting that companies sending people along, should take a chunky MP with them.

In the event, Sir Geoffrey, Lord Porte, and I.M. were among those who agreed—but now Simeons says, only one parliamentarian, the Tory Michael Cyril, will be there. He is going as the guest of Hoechst.

on The Financial Men and Matters thought up a new and original title? When those male chauvinist Bracken House did a the merits of tights stockings it had to be worn by a man—a judge normal costume.

Data bank legislation in foreign countries could hurt UK industry. Rory Johnston reports

Do computers really threaten our privacy?

We are used to the idea of national frontiers being barriers to the passage of people and goods, but traditionally information has flowed across them unhindered, at least in the non-communist world. There are signs that this is about to change.

International companies, in particular are very worried that their communications, and thus their ability to do business, will be severely hampered as restrictions are imposed by various countries on what is becoming known as "transborder data flow".

Concern over personal privacy is the reason cited most often by government for controlling transborder data flow. Laws are being imposed in several countries on the operation of computer data banks. In order to prevent evasion of controls these laws must include restrictions on the sending of data to other countries where there are no such laws—the so-called "data havens".

Britain is one of the latter,

and British businessmen are

becoming worried that foreign

governments may cut off vital

flows of information from

overseas subsidiaries and trad-

ing partners as personal files,

bank accounts, information

on orders from private custom-

ers and address lists for mail-

order operations. This, it is

feared, would bring much

profitable activity to a halt.

What can we do? The answer put forward by several pressure

groups and trade associations

is that we should pass laws to

control data banks. But, would

such legislation in fact protect

personal privacy?

It could be a colossal and

expensive bureaucratic intru-

sion into the activities of both

companies and individuals. It

would be absurd for us to pass

useful and unnecessary laws just

because other countries mis-

guidedly thought them a good

idea.

The argument over "data

protection" has been going on

for more than a decade. The

"privacy lobby" claims that the

accumulation in computers of

large amounts of information

about individuals is a threat to

the privacy of those concerned,

and that such information

would enable governments and

large corporations to infringe

people's rights.

How exactly they would do

this is not specified, but con-

cern over the matter has been

strong enough to induce several

countries to bring in legislation

in West Germany, a data

ombudsman has been appointed

to oversee the implementation

of the law, and in Sweden,

France, Austria and Norway, the

individual is given the legal

right to see information held

about him and change it if he

desires.

A scheme for United King-

dom legislation was put forward

by Sir Norman Lindop's Data

Protection Committee in Decem-

ber 1978 and it has been gather-

ing dust in the Home Office

ever since. Under the Lindop

proposals, a Data Protection

Authority (DPA) would be set

up which would maintain a

register of data banks opera-

tions—including those of central

and local government and

other public authorities.

Such legislation is

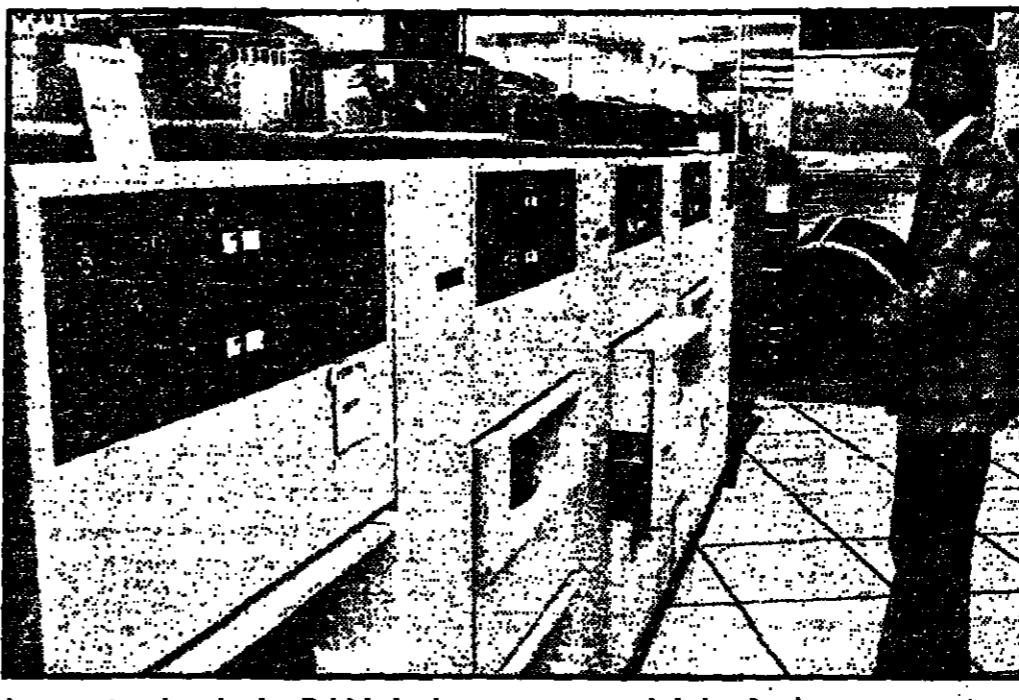
inevitably going to be

expensive and time-consum-

ing.

Concern over personal

privacy is



A computer data bank: British businessmen are worried that foreign governments may cut off vital flows of information.

does the notion of trying to control computer data by legislation make sense at all? A growing body of opinion both inside and outside the computer industry thinks not.

Even if controls were necessary or desirable, they still could not achieve what they set out to do. As computer industry lobby presentation to MP's at Westminster recently, the data processing manager of the Younger committee before it, and the United States Privacy Study Commission were all unable to find any significant examples, despite years of investigation.

There is a shortage of hard evidence that computers are causing an invasion of privacy. The Lindop committee, the Younger committee before it, and the United States Privacy Study Commission were all unable to find any significant examples, despite years of investigation. The data processing manager of the Younger committee before it, and the United States Privacy Study Commission were all unable to find any significant examples, despite years of investigation.

Certainly much of the public's fear of computers stems from an exaggerated notion of what they can do. The notion of one huge nationwide data bank containing everyone's personal details is intriguing but

the DPA would act as its own enforcement agency and would have powers to enter premises and bring prosecutions. But

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the DPA would act as its own enforcement

ANCIAL NEWS

members ahead after high second half

Wilson-Smith
is a much tougher half, ladies clothes and manufacturer. Stores raised pre-tax by 47 per cent to £4.07m in February 2. After a £751,000 profit, sales compared 10,000 in 1978-79, the was a more modest 29

of the group's 47 per cent in turnover to reflects higher volume. It is a budget operation unique integration of and manufacturing of sales are own has enabled it to hold steady. However, the new stores opened during have contributed suby to higher sales. ding new stores, the rise in volume sales at 10 per cent. This all in the first half. The half coincided with a high period for most in the rag trade g the rise in VAT and was almost certainly

issue is planned.

session blamed for downturn at Garton

ael Prest
Engineering, the manufacturer of fastenings, saw profits fall last year to £990,000. Aubrey Garton, the blames inflation, exchange rates, interest charges and on in British industry lower results. Engineering and trades had less impact than during the dispute was less important during the trans-like. But it now seems, on says, that the steel could be more serious of the effect on so far this year look

promising, however. The company hopes it can raise turnover by more than last year when it went up by 11 per cent to £12.9m. In real terms this was a fall of around 4 per cent, and it points to margins being heavily squeezed.

The pressure on margins was aggravated by competition from imports, especially in the mass market for bolts, the traditional core of Garton's business which still accounts for about 40 per cent of turnover. Another factor was that disruptions to customers' factories effectively caused a delay in Garton's price increases.

A final dividend of 5p gross brings the year's full payout to shareholders to 9.5p gross, the same as last year.

erim rise of 10pc at Ricardo

based Ricardo Engineers is still pushing profits higher, after topped the £1m mark first time in 1978-79. six months to December pre-tax profits rose by £51,000 before charge, compared with £8,000 last time. Revenue up by 15 per cent to £1.3m. Shareholders benefit, interim dividend rises from 3.92p to 4.28p gross. Downs, the chairman, that the parent, is experiencing a demand from its worldwide. But Cussons' of business has been disappointing, re-in this subsidiary makes for the half-year. But as been taken and this, with the continued of the parent, gives good reason for

for-one scrap radin Rbr
ting higher profits and is, Berardin Rubber is proposing a four-for-one issue.

turnover up from £882,000, pre-tax increased from £341,000 5,000 in the year to December 30. Profits are after an additional profit re-planting of £30,000, with all for 1977-78 earnings per share up 20p to 6.02p, the total gross, is being raised 3.8p to 5.42p.

half-time loss in Sinclair Hedges though the turnover of Sinclair Holdings rose 10.37m to £12.75m in the year to December 31, the s expanded to £538,000, ed with a loss of £1.8m last time, after a nil (same); last year's was also after charging extraordinary debit of £1.8m. The figures include profits of Dickson, Brown i for the first time. The

Paradyne—CASE merger is off

The virtual doubling of the Paradyne share price has so changed the basis of the condi-

he Ashdown Investment Trust Limited

Managed by J. Henry Schroder Wag & Co. Limited

The Annual General Meeting was held at 120 Cheapside, London EC2, on Tuesday, 25 March, 1980 at 3.00 p.m.

The following is a summary of the Report by the Directors for the year ended 30 November, 1979.

	1979	1978	% Change
otal Revenue	£1,312,973	£994,806	+32.0%
Revenue after taxation and expenses	£ 738,222	£471,218	+56.2%
Earnings per Ordinary Share (see below)	6.95p	4.78p	+45.4%
Ordinary dividends for the year net per share	6.60p	4.60p	+43.5%
Net asset value per 25p Ordinary Share	177.7p	185.2p	-4.0%

The earnings per ordinary share reflect non-recurring income from the Company's holdings in Shell Transport & Trading Limited and Unilever Limited as a result of the removal of dividend restraint, amounting to £112,049 net. As the Directors considered that the benefit of this income should be passed on directly to the shareholders at the earliest opportunity, a special interim dividend of 1.00p per share has been declared on the Ordinary Capital, absorbing £104,660, and is included in the dividends per share above.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretaries: J. Henry Schroder Wag & Co. Limited, 48 St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4EJ.

International

Sohio net income up by 163 pc

From Frank Vogl

Washington, March 25

Standard Oil of Ohio (Sohio), whose majority shareholder is BP, stressed today that its key long-term financial objectives are a strong credit rating of at least "double A" a minimum return on borrowed and invested capital that exceeds expected inflation rates by a reasonable amount of at least 6 to 8 per cent and a dividend payment of 35 to 40 per cent of income.

The company noted in its annual report that in the 1970s its assets grew sixfold to \$20.9m. Its ownership stake in the Prudhoe Bay field in Alaska gives it greater crude oil reserves than any other company in the United States.

Sohio expects Prudhoe Bay production, now at 1.5m barrels a day, to be sustained at this high level for about six years.

In 1979 Sohio increased its revenues by 52 per cent to \$7.916m, its net income rose by 163 per cent to \$1.186m, its long-term debt fell by 17 per cent to \$3,086.4m and its cash dividends per common stock rose 47 per cent to \$1.22.

The aggregate price of the Norin common shares is about

Bridon sells stake in Haggie

Bridon, the British cable and wire maker, has sold its 38.8 per cent stake in the South African associate company Haggie for R57m (£31.7m). The purchasers are Scaw Metals, a wholly owned subsidiary of the giant Anglo American Corporation, and Union Corporation.

In 1978 Bridon made pre-tax profits of £17.1m, but in the first half of the last financial year lost £1.52m. In recent years Haggie has also moved

says that it is selling the Haggie stake because the return on investment has been small and more profitable use can be made of the funds elsewhere.

The dividend from Haggie in 1979 was £1.36m.

Haggie is a major supplier of steel cables to the South African mining industry. Last year it made profits of £28m on assets of £70.1m. In recent years Haggie has also moved

Bid for Australian Finance

Associates Corporation of North America says it will make a joint \$11.5m (about £5m) takeover offer with the Melbourne-based insurance group, T and G Mutual Life Society for the finance company, Australian Finance and

90 per cent acceptance by shareholders.

The joint offer is of \$1.20 cash for each of the eight million fully paid 50 cent shares cum dividend in AFS and 55 cents for each of the two million partly paid 50 cent shares.

Associates Corporation noted that the AFS board has said it will recommend the offer be accepted.

CP to acquire food group

Canadian Pacific Investments, of Montreal, and Norin Corporation, of Miami, Florida, has announced that it has reached an agreement in principle under which Canadian Pacific and its wholly-owned United States subsidiary, Canellus, of Syracuse, will acquire through a cash merger all of the outstanding common shares of Norin at a price of \$3.20 a share.

The aggregate price of the Norin common shares is about \$76m (about £34m). The agreement is subject to any necessary governmental approvals, a formal agreement, and the approval of Norin's shareholders at a shareholders' meeting expected to be held by early summer.

Norin is a diversified food company engaged in the manufacture, processing and distribution of a variety of food and agricultural products in North America and the Caribbean.

1980 after a 5 per cent decline in 1979.

United States crude production was down by 3 per cent to 12,140 barrels daily in 1979, a level the company expects to hold above even in 1980.

The price of oil from the Norwegian area of the North Sea rose to an average of \$21.69 a barrel from \$13.94 in 1978. Phillips said, while prices received for Nigerian oil reached \$22.30 from \$14.11 a barrel a year earlier.

Sales amounted to 451.2bn yen against 123.2bn yen.

Phillips expects higher earnings

ings because crude oil costs are expected to rise faster than prices for refined oil.

The growth seen in the chemicals business in 1979 is not expected to continue into 1980, partly because United States economic activity is expected to slow. Profits rose to \$185m in 1979 from \$60m in 1978.

United States natural gas revenues rose by 43 per cent last year and gas production is expected to rise slightly in

Bass hotels

Still expanding

Crest Hotels, the hotel arm of Bass, the brewery group, is still in an expansion mood and will be announcing the purchase of another hotel in Europe shortly.

The impending deal was disclosed by Mr Richard Beer, managing director, at the start of a Dutch Week at the Group's hotel at the Wembley Complex — possibly an echo of the £16.7m deal last year which made it the biggest hotel group in Holland.

Crest is now the third largest United Kingdom-based hotel company, Mr Beer said, with 30 on the Continent and 54 in the United Kingdom.

No Arbed dividend

The steel company Arbed announced sharply reduced losses for 1979 of 218m Luxembourg francs, compared with 1,919m francs in 1978 and 4,500m in 1977.

Despite the "encouraging improvement", Arbed said the losses of the past several years and the financial cost of modernizing facilities led the directors to decide against recommending a dividend payment.

Matsushita Electric

Net income of Matsushita Electric Works of Japan was 18bn yen for the year ended November 30, 1979. This compares with 13.9bn in the previous year.

Sales amounted to 451.2bn yen against 123.2bn yen.



Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 139th Annual General Meeting of United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution will be held at the Guildhall, Salisbury, Wiltshire, on Wednesday, 14th May 1980, at 12 noon, for the following purposes:

1. To consider the documents comprised within the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1979.

2. To re-elect the following directors who retire by rotation in accordance with Rule 8.01:

Viscount Sandon
Mr W M Clarke
Sir John Riddell

3. To elect the following directors who have been appointed since the last Annual General Meeting, in accordance with Rule 9.06:

The Honourable R M O Stanley
The Rt Hon Dr J Dickson Mabon, MP
Mr J J Gunning

4. To re-appoint Messrs Deloitte Haskins & Sells as the auditors to the Institution and to authorise the directors to fix their remuneration.

5. As special business, to consider the following Ordinary Resolution: "That the fees of the directors be and are hereby increased from the rate of £2,500 per annum for each director to £3,500 per annum for each director with effect from 14th May 1980".

By Order of the Board
S V Finn
Deputy General Manager (Property) and Secretary
12th March 1980

Dolphin House
New Street Salisbury SP1 2QO
Salisbury (0722) 6242

Rua Formosa, 407-B - Oporto - Portugal



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with a great Bank
and an excellent wine.

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Portugal is a country united to Brazil — and its largest bank — not only by business, but also by language, people and history. Come join us in a toast to another great step forward by Banco do Brasil. With a glass of Port wine.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Briefly

Expanded Metal: Turnover for year to December 31, 1979, £32.64m (£23.59m). Pre-tax profit, £2.52m (£2.31m). Earnings per share, 8.64p (7.75p). Total (gross) dividend, 6.42p (5.95p). **Wolstenholme Rail**: Turnover for 1979, £21.57m (£13.23m). Pre-tax profits, £1.92m (£1.37m). Basic earnings per share, 24.8p (26.5p). Total (gross) payment raised from £2.25p (adjusted) to 8.21p.

Castlefleld (Klang) Rubber Estate: Turnover for half-year to December, £373,000 (£261,000). Pre-tax profit, £38,000 (£36,000). Profit figure based on estimate for full year, proportioned for six months.

AGB Research Limited: Morgan Grenfell announces that of £2,739,188 the ordinary share of 10p each offered by way of rights to the ordinary shareholders of AGB Research over 96 per cent have been taken up.

Local Authority Bonds: The interest rate on this week's batch of local authority bearing bonds is 1.73 per cent. Issue price is 100. Last week it was 1.71 per cent at 100.

Fairview Estates: The housebuilders doubled profits, raised the interim dividend 20 per cent in the six months to the end of last December, but turned out that the earnings growth level will not be maintained. Profits jumped from £2.3m to £4.8m on a turnover from £12.3m to £15.4m. The directors say borrowings are being reduced. The dividend goes up from 19.27p to 21.25p. **Leisure C. Edwards and Sons (Manchester)**: Culicifer Foods bought 10,000 shares in Edwards at 57p on March 24 and now holds 3.33m shares (16.2 per cent).

Edwards: The company is making a scrip issue of either two ordinary 10p shares or two deferred ordinary 12.5p shares for each ordinary share held. Deferred shares will carry no right to dividends, but will be entitled to them when they will be converted into ordinary shares on the basis of five for each four deferred. Forecast final dividend on ordinary totaling £126,000 net, making total of £126,861 (£151,200).

City Team: Team of Greece: The Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Gordon Richardson, and Sir Francis Sandlands, Chairman of the Committee on Invisible Exports, will be heading a team of experts from the Bank of London at a two-day joint conference in Athens on May 22 and 23. The Anglo-Greek conference is under the patronage of the Greek Minister of Co-ordination, Mr Minotakis, and will be attended by the Governor of the Bank of Greece, Professor Xenophon Zolotas.

Exel Acquire Partnership: Exel Advertising and PR under its chairman, Mr Frank O'Stanchon, has acquired the business of Partnership, the independent PR Consultancy. The acquisition totals their joint PR billings to £300,000.

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Rights issue by Brent Chemicals

By Michael Clark

Expanded Metal: Turnover for year to December 31, 1979, £32.64m (£23.59m). Pre-tax profit, £2.52m (£2.31m). Earnings per share, 8.64p (7.75p). Total (gross) dividend, 6.42p (5.95p). Basic earnings per share, 24.8p (26.5p). Total (gross) payment raised from £2.25p (adjusted) to 8.21p.

Castlefleld (Klang) Rubber Estate: Turnover for half-year to December, £373,000 (£261,000). Pre-tax profit, £38,000 (£36,000). Profit figure based on estimate for full year, proportioned for six months.

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up from £22m to £28.6m, giving earnings a share of 15.6p against 12.6p.

A final dividend of 5.8p gross has been proposed, making a total of 7.5p compared with 5.3 last year.

However, while the board feels that the figures are satisfactory they fall some way short of earlier expectations. They blame the shortfall on the continuing industrial unrest encountered by several of the group's customers, but were reluctant to put a figure on its amount, least as a direct result.

Mr J. Jones, the chairman, said the rights, the company's third in three years, would give it more flexibility with acquisitions, which had formed part of its policy expansion programme in recent years.

The terms are aimed at giving shareholders a fairer chance of taking up their entitlement as with the previous issues. In order to cut costs the board have decided not to underwrite the issue.

Looking at the current year Mr Jones reports that the first two months were satisfactory.

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Property

Continuation of expensive tradition

Every now and again, just through the quirks of the market, some unusually fine properties come up for sale at much the same time. At present market values they are naturally very much in the higher price brackets, but somehow find new owners, not always from overseas, who are prepared to carry on what has become an expensive tradition.

One such unusually fine house now for sale for about £500,000 is Bingham's Melcombe, near Dorchester, which dates back to the fourteenth century and has a

grade one listing as being of special architectural or historic interest.

The house is built around three sides of a closed courtyard entered through a gate house, and one of the main features is a mid-sixteenth century oriel with examples of heraldic stained glass and the Bingham arms of the family which owned it for about 700 years until the end of the nineteenth century. The main accommodation is four reception rooms, two bedroom and bathroom suites and six further bedrooms.

The gate house has two reception and two bedrooms, and the dower house three reception and five bedrooms.

The gardens preserve much of their original layout and in all about 164 acres go with the property. The vendor is Mr Douglas Villiers, a businessman, and the agents are Knight Frank and Rutley.

The same agents are also dealing on behalf of the executors, with the sale of Reddish House, at Broad

Chalke, near Salisbury, Wiltshire, the home of the late Sir Cecil Seaton.



Reddish House, near Salisbury, Wiltshire, home of the late Sir Cecil Seaton, for sale at over £250,000.

Another fine Queen Anne house for sale is one called Netherhall, at Ledbury, about 15 miles from Hereford, also with a grade two listing. It retains inside a number of its period features such as original shutters to the windows and panelled doors with their surrounds and pediments. It is constructed of brick, with tiled or Welsh blue slate roofs, part of which have recently been renewed.

There are two reception rooms, a study, a bedroom and bathroom suite, with four other bedrooms on the first floor and four attic bedrooms. Above the detached double garage is a good studio or games room. Partly walled gardens surround the house and include a heated swimming pool. In all, there is about one acre.

The property is to be auctioned at the end of next month, unless sold privately, and is expected to fetch about £100,000. The sale is through Chamberlain-Brothers and Edwards of Cheltenham.

On a more modest scale, Priory Farmhouse at Blakesley, near Worcester, Northamptonshire, is another grade two listed building thought to have had origins

in the fourteenth century. A stone arched window in the dining room is believed to date from about 1370.

There are two main reception rooms, a study or music room, a main bedroom and bathroom suite, and two further bedrooms.

In addition there is a guest or staff cottage formed from an old smithy, which is self-contained and has an L-shaped living room and a double bedroom. The gardens and grounds extend to about an acre. Offers of about £105,000 are being asked through Berry Bros, of Northampton.

The Thatched Cottage, at Dedham Green, near Bury St Edmunds, in Suffolk, which adjoins what is said to be the largest village green in the county, is again on a smaller scale. The cottage is of timber and thatch with whitewashed walls and also has a grade two listing. The modernized accommodation comprises two main reception rooms and three double bedrooms.

A garden and paddock extend to about one acre and include three modern loose boxes, a tack room and a raised paddock. The Newmarket Office of Jackson, Stobbs and Staff are looking for offers of more than £60,000.

The Grange, at Bisham, near Marlow, Buckinghamshire, is notable for its fine riverside position, and notable also for its spacious accommodation. This includes two main reception rooms, both of which are 25ft or more in length, a games room of much the same size and a dining room nearly as large.

Upstairs there are five bedrooms, a dressing room and two bathrooms. Outbuildings include a timber barn providing storage, garaging and stabling. The grounds run to about an acre and extend down to the River Thames, to which there is a frontage of about 140ft.

They include a stone gazebo by the water and a concrete slipway. Offers in the region of £185,000 are being asked through Giddy and Giddy, of Maidenhead and Henley.

Five Oaks Cottage, at West Burton, West Sussex, is well

placed at the foot of the South Downs.

The house is

surrounded by trees.

It has

been

reduced

in size.

Planning consent

for its conversion into a

with a living room, log

combined kitchen and din

room and three bedroo

but this might be chas

The sale includes about

third of an acre and

price is £38,000. The

Braxtons, of Battle,

Geral

Residential property

SAVILLS

DUMFRIESSHIRE

Dumfries 12 miles. Carlisle 42 miles.

THE GILCHRISTLAND ESTATE

Exceptional in hand farming estate with modern mansion house well known for its spectacular and diverse shoot

Gilchristland House: 4 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms and shower room.

Estate Office, 2 Farmhouses, 5 cottages and 2 ranges of modern farmbuildings.

483 ACRES OF PLOUGHABLE, 248 ACRES OF GRASSLAND, 359 ACRES OF COMMERCIAL AND AMENITY WOODLAND.

2 Stocked Lakes.

SAVILLS, London Office, Tel: 01-499 8644.

JOHN SALE AND PARTNERS, 83-85 Friars Vennel, Dumfries. Tel: (0387) 63935.

HERTFORDSHIRE

About 137 Acres

Much farmland 42 miles. Hatfield 25 miles. London 33 miles.

A most historical listed grade II house extensively rebuilt by Henry VIII overlooking and surrounded by a private stud in parkland setting

The Main House: 5 reception rooms, 7 principal and 10 secondary bedrooms. 4 bathrooms. Domestic offices, cottage annexe with 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms. Bathrooms. Oil central heating, garden with pond. Paddocks.

Two attractive period cottages. 19 loose boxes and 11 paddocks.

SAVILLS, County Residential Department, 5 Mount Street, W1. Tel: 01-499 8644.

W. H. LEE, 21 High Street, Ware, Herts. Tel: (0920) 5411.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE—CHILTERN 19 ACRES

High Wycombe Station 5 miles. London 33 miles. M40 6 miles.

Period farmhouse of great character offering scope for extension, outbuildings and paddocks well placed for access to London and Oxford, 2 reception rooms, study, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, oil central heating, garden with pond. Paddocks.

SAVILLS, County Residential Dept., 5 Mount Street, London, W1. Tel: 01-499 8644.

JAMES LANHAM LTD, High Street, St. Ives. Tel: (073 670) 5212.

CORNWALL—ST. IVES

Penzance 10 miles. Newquay Airport 34 miles.

Period farmhouse of great character offering scope for extension, outbuildings and paddocks well placed for access to London and Oxford, 2 reception rooms, study, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, oil central heating, garden with pond. Paddocks.

SAVILLS, County Residential Dept., 5 Mount Street, London, W1. Tel: 01-499 8644.

LANE FOX & PARTNERS, 12, 14 & 16 Long Street, Dursley, Gloucestershire. Tel: 0453 2395.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE—ULEY

About 21 Acres

Dursley 3 miles. M5 Motorway 2 miles. Stroud 23 miles.

Fine example of early Georgian gothic architecture, listed grade 2, in peaceful parkland setting. Recently used as a school but suitable for other uses (subject to planning)

About 14,000 sq. ft. useable area. Large drawing room, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 dressing rooms, library, study, music room, 4 staff bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 5 bedrooms, 1st floor, 2nd floor, 3rd floor, 4th floor, 5th floor, 6th floor, 7th floor, 8th floor, 9th floor, 10th floor, 11th floor, 12th floor, 13th floor, 14th floor, 15th floor, 16th floor, 17th floor, 18th floor, 19th floor, 20th floor, 21st floor, 22nd floor, 23rd floor, 24th floor, 25th floor, 26th floor, 27th floor, 28th floor, 29th floor, 30th floor, 31st floor, 32nd floor, 33rd floor, 34th floor, 35th floor, 36th floor, 37th floor, 38th floor, 39th floor, 40th floor, 41st floor, 42nd floor, 43rd floor, 44th floor, 45th floor, 46th floor, 47th floor, 48th floor, 49th floor, 50th floor, 51st floor, 52nd floor, 53rd floor, 54th floor, 55th floor, 56th floor, 57th floor, 58th floor, 59th floor, 60th floor, 61st floor, 62nd floor, 63rd floor, 64th floor, 65th floor, 66th floor, 67th floor, 68th floor, 69th floor, 70th floor, 71st floor, 72nd floor, 73rd floor, 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De La Creme De La Creme

-Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

Margery Hurst Centre

Secretary—Mining Engineers, EC4.

£5,000 neg.

An opportunity to work at executive level on a wide range of duties including office administration and arranging hotel and air bookings. Good secretarial skills required. Four weeks' holiday plus other attractive benefits.

Senior Secretary, EC4. £5,900

An interesting job working for the Director of Personnel Services. Experience at executive level is essential, combined with the ability to work on own initiative. Benefits include four weeks' holiday, season ticket loan scheme, LVI's and a contributory pension scheme.

Executive Secretary—International Banking Company, EC4. £6,000

A good organizer with a strong personality and good secretarial skills is called for in this position. Working for Managing Director with a wide range of responsibilities. Benefits include LVI's, subsidised mortgage facilities, free BUPA.

Secretary/PA—Sterling Brokers, EC4.

£5,500.

Responsible position requiring for the Marketing Department. A full range of secretarial skills including some audio typing is called for. A good telephone manner together with initiative and confidence is essential. 4 weeks' holiday and 10% bonus scheme.

115/17 Cannon Street, EC4. 01-623 6181

JAYGAR SELECTION

WEST END £6,500+
Opportunity with variety and interest for
flexible intelligent self-motivated PA Sec.

KENSINGTON c. £6,000
Senior Sec. with good admin. and pos.
Medical exp. for a stimulating post.

CHARING CROSS £5,900+
Manager of Int. Co. needs a real PA
with good skills for very responsible
position.

BRENTFORD to £5,500
Excellent job, all business plus good Sec.
skills and initiative for absorbing job.

Temporary Secretaries also required
open tonight until 6.30 p.m.

55 Sloane Square London S.W.1. 01-736 5148



PA/SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR

The Director of Marketing, Information and Public Relations for the Sea Containers Group, market leaders in international container, crane and container ship leasing and with expanding interests in hotel and leisure activities, is looking for a mature PA/Secretary, aged 35+.

In addition to normal secretarial duties, the successful candidate will assist the Director in the day to day administration of the office as well as providing a link with a wide range of internal and external contacts.

The company offers a salary of Circa £6500 p.a. plus excellent benefits including 70p. per day Lunchtime Vouchers.

Applicants who have had previous experience of PR/marketing in a senior secretarial capacity should write, enclosing a full curriculum vitae, to Miss R. H. Saunders, Deputy Personnel Officer, Sea Containers Services Limited, 1 Hanover Square, London W.1.

sea containers

BI-LINGUAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

French/English

Required to work for the Managing Director

You should have excellent shorthand/typing skills, be well educated and have several years' experience at senior level, hotel experience useful but not essential. Excellent salary, benefits and working environment.

The Dorchester

Please telephone
01-629 8888, Ext. 4149

American container leasing company, for their London office require an experienced, mature, male or female

SENIOR ASSISTANT

Fluency (or near) in English, Italian, French, German and a Scandinavian language essential due to the international nature of container business. Excellent touch typing, audio, telex and computer trained booking skills required as well as proven administration experience in a busy international office. Some knowledge and experience of American company working methods would be advantageous. Salary offered about £6,000 per annum.

Tel: 01-492 1881. (ref. JSA).

£6,000 (City)

Demanding position as Sec./PA to Personnel Director, International Bank. Sh./Typing 100/70, 2½% mortgage subsidy. Age 27+.

£6,000 (City)

Board Director dealing with mergers and acquisitions for well-known City bank seeks capable, mature Secretary. C.V./Resume 100/80. Exc. benefits including mortgage subsidy. Age 37+.

Dale Simpson

459 7972

Confidence Recruitment Consultants

Chelsea or Kensington
Secretary required for professional and progressive firm of estate agents. Good personality and ability to join happy and hard working team essential. Excellent conditions and excellent location. Apply Roland Hobber, Friend and Clarke on 724 8610.

La creme de la creme
also on page 29

Secretary to Company Secretary

The Company Secretary of a major public property investment company requires an experienced, well-educated and reliable Secretary to work in luxury offices near Holborn Circus. The post is varied and interesting, including some administrative duties, and you would have your own office with an IBM Executive typewriter. The ability to deal with people at all levels is important. We provide excellent benefits, including nearly five weeks' annual holiday, L.V.s, season ticket loan, BUPA and non-contributory Pension Scheme. Salary in the region of £5,500 p.a. with twice-yearly salary reviews. For further details, please ring Carol Watt on 01-831 6331.

Brixton Estate

PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

Dynamic Personal Assistant/Secretary required for Deputy Managing Director of fast expanding Camberley based Company. The successful applicant will be required to follow through projects on her own initiative to an extremely high standard and have all the attributes of a first class personal assistant. Salary negotiable, starting around £6,000 p.a. depending on personal abilities, attributes and presentation.

Please write in the first instance to Mrs C. Tolley P.O. Box 51, Camberley, Surrey.

SECRETARY FOR CHAIRMAN

required with good education and secretarial skills. The successful applicant will have broad experience and will be required to work from the chairman's private residence in S.W.7.

Please write with details of education and experience to Box 0774 F, The Times.

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE REQUIRE PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO ADMINISTRATOR

Of this major national charity concerned with the work of voluntary organizations, varied and interesting work as part of a small team dealing with financial, legal, personnel and policy matters. Good secretarial skills essential. Salary up to £5,175 plus £760 London Subsidised dining room. 5 weeks' annual leave. Further details and application form from the

Personnel Officer

NCSS
26 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3HU.

TELEPHONE 01-636 4066

HEADHUNTERS

Director of leading management consultants in Mayfair seeks a dynamic, well educated management consultant. First class shorthand and typing skills are required, the ability to communicate and confidential information obtained at top executive level is important.

YOUNG P.A. SECRETARY

Charming Legal Adviser of well known International Co. in W.1 seeks a young and lively P.A. secretary 23+ who would enjoy total involvement in multi-national affairs.

ADVERTISING P.A.

£5,500 neg. Use your previous advertising experience + good shorthand and typing skills. Good opportunities for future development. Work in a very successful agency.

BERKELEY APPOINTMENTS

161 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1. TEL 01-408 0444
(Recruitment Consultants)

SECRETARY/PA ADVERTISING

The dynamic new Executive of the new Financial News paper Advertising Bureau (starts 1st April) representing Britain's largest advertising agency, seeks an equally dynamic Secretary/PA to assist him in the organization of a £500m media Bureau.

Salary package negotiable, but anyone earning less than £6,000 p.a. will be asked to have the poise and experience needed to meet this challenge.

Further details, please ring

01-405 0090
(2 minutes Holborn tube)

P.A. £5,500

Secretary in Kensington for M.D. of Audio visual company. Good typing and shorthand a necessity. Also ability to communicate with clients. Phone 01-937 5028.

SUPERVISOR

Wanted for WORD PROCESSING on new Intranet Main computer in pleasant offices nr. Victoria Station by professional partnership. Good benefits. Apply Mrs Clarke on 724 8610.

ARCHITECTS W.1

Require bright and efficient Secretary with shorthand to organize a small friendly office on a deal basis telephone and reception. Worthwhile salary negotiable.

Tel. 01-387 8277

EXPERIENCED MEDICAL SECRETARY

required for busy private medical practice for 3-4 days per week. Good computer skills. Good telephone and shorthand. Good references. £12-15k. £262. Graduate Secretary. Open to male.

01-388 3394

British Gas are seeking to appoint the following experienced personnel for their Secretarial Departments in London.

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

Marble Arch up to £6,887

To assist in the organisation and administration of the Industry's most senior committees. The work involves regular contact with senior staff Directors and their secretaries. A high level of efficiency and accuracy is required and the work is highly confidential.

You should have a good general education with 'O' levels including English and have completed a recognised course in shorthand and typing. The experience required is at least 3 years in a responsible secretarial post, and some experience of committee administration would be an advantage.

Salary within the range £5,996-£6,887 inclusive of £751 Inner London Weighting. Ref: PER/201201/T. Please write with full details of age, qualifications, experience and current salary quoting the appropriate reference, to the Senior Personnel Officer (London), British Gas, 38 Bryanton Street, London W1A 2AZ. Closing date for applications 9 April, 1980.

Both vacancies open to men and women, offer the benefits normally associated with a large progressive organisation.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Holborn up to £8,143

To take responsibility for the Secretariate of a group of national Committees and associated Working Parties, serving British Gas Finance Division. This will involve preparation of agendas, reports, briefing notes, minutes and administrative arrangements for meetings. The position demands the ability to analyse and marshal facts, prepare accurate reports and minutes and to maintain good personal working relationships at all levels. We are seeking applicants with a degree or equivalent qualification who can offer some sound experience in a similar field.

Salary is in the range of £7,179-£8,143, inclusive of £751 Inner London Weighting. Ref: CH/200701/T.

To discuss details and other benefits, please call

01-730 8525

TELEPHONE SALES TRAINER £28,500+ (NEGOTIABLE PACKAGE)

The Classified Advertising Department in the London Evening News represents innovative leadership in Classified Development. In the last 12 months we have launched 7 'World Firsts'.

As a result of internal promotion (really) we are urgently looking for a young, aggressive and bright Sales Trainer, who wants to move faster than their environment currently allows.

Find out more and make a sales pitch to Clerk King, Executive Sales Manager, Evening News Classified, on

(01)
353 4428

Elizabeth Hu

PA TO THE PRESIDENT

£6,000

Private and confidential PA/Secretary for Knightbridge partner. Good confidence to deal with VIPs confidential.

ADMIN. ASSISTANT

£4,000

City company. Admin. and general administrative support. Good shorthand and telephone skills. Good experience in the recruitment of secretarial staff and attending management conferences. Truly shorthand needed.

W1 ESTATE AGENTS

£4,000

Personal Assistant/Secretary to the senior partner. The importance of this top job.

CHARING CROSS

£4,000

Young PA/Secretary to senior in all aspects of running our business. Duties include the organization of conference lunches. Must be socially confident to meet VIPs.

EXHIBITIONS

£4,000

PA/Personnel Officer for W.I. exhibition—organizer. Major secretarial staff and be responsible for setting up and running.

SALES EXECUTIVE

£4,000

Required by well-established company in Chemicals.

Applicants should be experienced in Chemicals and have good connections. Knowledge of G language and ability to understand and develop the market in W.I. is essential. Admin. and development skills required.

Salary will be in line with the responsibility in position entails. Company car and, usual, associated with a reputable company are provided.

Please apply with full details to:

Anglo Austrian Trading Company Limited,
39 St James Street, London SW1 1JB
Tel. 01-433 1206

£5,500-£6,000 P.A./ADMIN. —CITY

Two of our clients have asked us to recruit experienced Personal Secretaries for Senior Directors.

Both appointments offer opportunities to contribute to company activities at a very high level.

Although good secretarial skills are necessary, the ability to take responsibility and to develop frequently is just as valuable.

To discuss details and other benefits, please call

01-730 8525

RELIANCE
EXECUTIVE CONSULTANTS

FRENCH BI-LINGUAL SECRETARY £6,000

Applicants need to have French mother tongue and able to work shorthand in English and French. Will be working for a Manager of a leading International Press Agency. Very involved position that needs someone who

PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle



Bogarde who is interviewed about his comparatively career as a writer in today's edition of After Noon Plus 2.00

marriage has been arranged for today's BBC TV coverage Budget (BBC 1, 3.00). It is between two computers—the very own Rover and a much respected machine owned by of City stockbrokers. The fruit of the union, of course, is a temporary one, will be that within seconds of the editor's revelations, we can see what impact they are likely on the nation's economy. At the human level, the BBC's Matchless Duo, David Dimbleby and Robin Day, (Radio 4, 3.25) fields the Tireless Trio, Gordon Clough, Williams and Joan Bakewell from PM, Gordon Clough, Williams and Joan Bakewell from PM, and Peter Sissons, an of the News at One, presiding at the (single) test.

ople all over the country have soon had their enthusiasm at a council house dampened—literally. Wet walls, rotting floors, and all because so-called experts overlooked some simple physics when drawing up their designs. Tonight's Open (BBC 1, 9.35) investigates this scandalous state of affairs, report, sadly, a spectacular fall from grace in the building industry. A statement from the Royal Institute of British Architects (King Faiss of Saudi Arabia), Cleopatra's Castle: puppets in medieval story; 12.10 pm Rainy Day: Visit to an Essex farm, with a story and songs; 12.30 pm The Sun-vans: serial about an Australian family.

1.00 News, 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Take the High Road: Scotland's Coronation Street. Rurales, continued. Kay Grant is interviewed at Glendarroch House. 2.00 After Noon Plus: A triple feature: Long interview with Dickie Bird; Interview with Eddie Howell and Lyn Hillier who sing as Midnite in A Song for Europe (BBC 1, 7.30). The Brady Bunch: School yarn.

have a second chance tonight (Radio 3, 9.05) to hear today's recital at St John's, Smith Square by the Welsh o Margaret Price (Mozart, Schubert, Debussy and so). If such a thing is possible, she should sound even in this digital recording... Another eminent Welsh o, Gwyneth Jones, is featured in a BBC Wales programme (Radio 4). She talks about her life and sings items from her repertoire, with Wagner to the fore... For a mid-chuckle—it could be your last one this Budget day to the short Alan Ayckbourn comedy Mother Figure, Gureen Lipman, repeated in this morning's Double Act (4, 12.27).

THE SYMBOLS MEAN: *STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; ♫, SEAT.

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: The Baby Street Kids; 7.05 Work and Retirement; 7.30 A School Approach to Energy. Close down at 7.55.

9.35 For Schools: Colleges: It's Maths; 9.55 Let's Go (for mentally handicapped); 10.12 Words and Pictures; 11.02 Everyday Maths; 11.40 English: In Our Own Words; 12.45 pm Russian Language; 1.00 People, Lesson Six (re).

12.45 News and weather; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Last of Lalita Ahmed's series about Indian cooking. BBC Publications have now published her book, A Taste of India.

1.45 Playboard: puppet programme; Schools, Colleges: Watch (caveman); 2.18 Twentieth Century History (India); 2.40 Communicate I (mounting a camp).

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Problem Identification Game; 7.45 Cells and Organisms; 7.30 Close down at 7.55.

10.30 Gharbar: For Asian women. Sewing, cooking, a story and some music. Closedown at 10.45.

11.00 Play School: Dorothy Lenni's story: Tinker-Tom. Finds a Home (repeated at 3.55). Close-down at 11.20.

3.35 pm Play School: See 1.00.

4.40 The Backyard: Czechoslovakia's cartoon. Upsetting the Apple Cart; 4.45 Jackanory: Sarah Porter continues reading The Tale of Beatrix Potter: The Tailor of Gloucester; 4.40 Take Hart: 10-year-old makes a picture with dye powder, chalk, sand and plaster of Paris; 5.00 John Craven's Newsround: junior newsreader; 5.05 God's Wonderful Way: GWR serial. A race against

time to find out why so many newly-built council houses are cursed with faults, including condensation. He questions architects, government advisers and construction officials. (See Personal Choice).

5.40 News and weather; with Richard Baker. 5.55 Nationwide: Diving among the wrecks off the Scilly Isles.

7.00 Potter: Trouble with a roll of carpet from the home of the ex-gangster (Harry H. Corbett). Another in Arthur Lowe's comedy series.

7.30 A Song for Europe: 1980: Twelve songs—one of which will represent the United Kingdom at the Eurovision Song Contest in The Hague on April 19. Tonight, the winner will be picked. Terry Wogan is MC.

9.00 News: with Richard Baker. 9.25 The Queen: A statement by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer (repeated on BBC 2 at 11.30).

9.35 Open Secret: We Made a Technical Mistake. Peter Williams

is writing in (Sheffield) and Andrew Dunning is still a teacher whose play

5.55 Paddington: he hits the jackpot (re).

5.40 Open University: Rich Law, Poor Law: 6.05 Systems Modelling; 6.30 Magic in the Web of Art; 6.55 The Mother Tongue: The elements in this chess series.

7.30 Black Dyke's World of Music: 7.45 Paddington: he hits the jackpot (re).

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ANIMALS AND BIRDS 27
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BUSINESS TO BUSINESS 29
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EDUCATIONAL 29
ENTERTAINMENTS 10, 11
FINANCIAL 29
FLAT SHARING 24
FOR SALE 31
LA CREME DE LA CREME 29, 30
LEGAL 29
MOTOR CARS 29
PROPERTY 24, 29
PUBLIC NOTICES 29
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061-8341234

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD.
We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Queries Department immediately by telephoning 01-837224 (Ext. 780). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS 24 HOURS.

Alterations to copy is 3.00 pm prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

I will heel this city and its people and restore them to health. I will show them abundant love and care. I will be a good wife and mother. Jerusalem 53: 6 (G.N.B.).

BIRTHS
ADM—On 2nd March at Eddington, Northamptonshire, to Wilma and Giles, daughter of Alan and Gillian (née Price) are delighted to announce the arrival of a baby boy, a daughter, 21 March, a son, 22 March, a daughter, 23 March, a son, 24 March, a daughter, 25 March, a son, 26 March, a son, 27 March, a daughter, 28 March, a son, 29 March, a son, 30 March, a son, 31 March, a son, 32 March, a son, 33 March, a son, 34 March, a son, 35 March, a son, 36 March, a son, 37 March, a son, 38 March, a son, 39 March, a son, 40 March, a son, 41 March, a son, 42 March, a son, 43 March, a son, 44 March, a son, 45 March, a son, 46 March, a son, 47 March, a son, 48 March, a son, 49 March, a son, 50 March, a son, 51 March, a son, 52 March, a son, 53 March, a son, 54 March, a son, 55 March, a son, 56 March, a son, 57 March, a son, 58 March, a son, 59 March, a son, 60 March, a son, 61 March, a son, 62 March, a son, 63 March, a son, 64 March, a son, 65 March, a son, 66 March, a son, 67 March, a son, 68 March, a 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